

THE



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## NCB faces monopolies inquiry

The Monopolies Commission is to be asked to investigate the financial performance of the National Coal Board. The inquiry is likely to look at areas such as the unit cost of production and the NCB's close relations with the CEBG, including subsidies against cheap foreign coal.

British Steel lost £250m in the first half of the financial year, after a £66m deficit for the whole of last year. Page 15

## Plea to minister on BL strike

Mr Stanley Orme, opposition spokesman on industry, called on Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, to persuade BL to withdraw its threat of closures so that unions and management could resume negotiations. Page 2

## 10,000 held in Sudan plot

More than 10,000 people have been detained in Sudan in recent weeks. A further thousand men were rounded up on Saturday for interrogation in an attempt to counter Libyan-inspired subversion. Many have confessed to being Libyan agents, the authorities claim. Page 5

## Argentine 'policy of extermination'

Senator Jacobo Timmerman, an exiled Argentine newspaper editor, claims that the silence of the Roman Catholic Church and the Jewish community has made it easier for the Argentine Government to pursue a 'policy of extermination'. A former political prisoner he intends to draw attention to the danger of remaining silent. Page 5

## 'Sacrilege' may end gold hunt

The recovery of gold bullion from the cruiser sunk in the Barents Sea may be jeopardized by allegations that human remains were tossed casually back into the sea during salvage work. Divers were said to have played pranks on each other with human skulls. Page 4

## Croydon defeat faces Tories

The by-election at Croydon, North-West, on Thursday, seems certain to be the Government's stiffest electoral test so far. In a close finish between Labour and the Social Democratic and Liberal alliance, the Tories seem likely to be victims of Mrs Thatcher's economic policies. Page 2

## Scargill confident of NUM victory

Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire miners, said that with one more candidate now standing he was convinced there would be a big vote in his favour in the election for a new president of the National Union of Mineworkers. Page 3

## Malaysian rebuff to Britain

Malaysian officials dismiss as 'too little, too late' approaches by British businessmen to improve relations. They claim that recent British actions against Malaysia, The Cabinet has imposed restrictions on British tenders for government contracts. Page 8

## Hope fades for cricket tour

It now seems certain England's cricket tour of India will be cancelled because of Indian objections to the inclusion of Boycott and Co., who have played in South Africa. The Indian Government says it will make an announcement in two or three days. Back page

## Afghan regime 'may face coup'

Afghanistan's political, economic and administrative structure has collapsed, amid rumours that the Karmal regime might be replaced by another communist administration, according to a former Kabul official. Page 8

Leader page, 11  
Letters: On Northern Ireland, from Mr Brian Harrison, and Mr R. W. Duncanson; Mr Heath, from Mrs Patricia Kirwan, and Mr J. D. Green.  
Leading articles: Poland; damages for injuries.  
Features, pages 9, 10  
Commentary: The Booker prize; the battle Bann must win; treasures in dispute; mischief in Sudan by Gaddafi.  
Obituary, page 12  
Dr Thomas Robertson

## General takes over in Poland after Kania quits

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, Oct 18

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Poland's soldier Prime Minister, today became leader of the Communist Party after Mr Stanislaw Kania resigned under severe criticism from both wings of the Central Committee. The resignation was accepted by a slim 54 per cent majority in the Central Committee. That illustrated the split in the party which the new leadership of General Jaruzelski is intended to remedy.

General Jaruzelski, who is also Minister of Defence, received 180 of the 184 votes cast in the leadership ballot, the official PAP news agency said. Mr Kania assumed the party leadership little more than a year ago and initiated a line of renewal and reform. General Jaruzelski who became Prime Minister in February is closely associated with that policy. His election means continuity of this line even though it will also mean a tightening of party discipline and a more determined effort to confront the crisis.

The party is moving into attack with a harder line even though the leadership has affirmed agreement and negotiation with the Solidarity trade union movement. General Jaruzelski personifies a compromise choice. Whether he will retain the membership is as yet unclear. The rule in the past has been to keep the two functions separate. In the emergency he may retain both posts. The Central Committee confirmed in a resolution that the Government should renegotiate agreements with Solidarity. It also appealed to Solidarity to abstain from strikes which it said were leading the country to ruin and disaster.

The committee instructed the Government and the communist deputies in the Sejm (Parliament), to secure parliamentary approval for a temporary suspension of the right to strike. That was justified by the crisis facing the country, it said. There is also a warning that the authorities in case of 'supreme necessity' will use 'all means envisaged by the constitution' to defend social order.

Continued on back page, col 7

General Jaruzelski (left) being congratulated on his accession to the party leadership by Mr Stanislaw Kania.



President Reagan being welcomed on board the French destroyer de Grasse by President Mitterrand at Yorktown, Virginia. Presidents celebrate, page 6

## Moshe Dayan buried on hillside above his boyhood village

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Oct 18

Moshe Dayan, the Israeli folk hero, was buried with state and military honours today on a hillside in the lush Jezreel valley overlooking the landscape of his youth. The soldier and statesman, credited with spectacular battlefield victories and a key role in the successful peace talks with Egypt, was buried in the village of Nahalal, the smallholders' village established by his father 50 years ago in what was then a swampy area. His funeral was a national event, with a large crowd of mourners gathered at the graveside. The burial fulfilled a dream described by Dayan in his last book, *Breakthrough*. 'It is my wish', he wrote, 'to be buried in the village of Nahalal, near Nazareth. The peak is covered with rich foliage, terebinth and oak, with cypresses and anemones and a red cedar sprouting between the rocks in winter. At the top is a cave with just space enough for me to lie down comfortably on a mattress of dust from the peeling walls and roof, and earth and stones swept in by wind and rain.'

His feeling of peacefulness is prompted, not from the safety of my refuge, but from the achievement of my aim—to lie on a blanket of soft earth, to rest, to forget, to think of nothing. Photograph, page 5

## Arab attack prompts new look at military security

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The Ministry of Defence is to examine details of the car attack on Saturday which injured Lieutenant-General Sir Stuart Pringle, Commander General of the Royal Marines, to see if further security precautions can be taken to protect military personnel.

Advice on security is issued by the ministry but much of it concerns military installations and centres on constant vigilance against unusual vehicles or suspicious strangers. Senior officials are expected to be aware of their potential as targets. Yesterday Sir Stuart's condition was described as satisfactory by King's College Hospital, where he was taken after a device exploded beneath his car as he drove away from his home in South Croxted Road, Dulwich. A leg was amputated but he was well enough yesterday to be visited by Sir John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, who said afterwards that Sir Stuart, aged 53, had shown great courage.

Mr Nott gave him a message from the Prime Minister; the expressed his interest at the attack and hoped he would soon be back on duty. A message from the Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General of the Royal Marines, expressing the concern and sympathy of the Queen and himself was sent to Lady Pringle.

The bomb was left under Sir Stuart's car, which was parked outside his home. The house does not have a garage and the road is usually busy, although mainly residential.

The device exploded after Sir Stuart had begun to drive away in the car with Bella, his pet Labrador dog. Scotland Yard believe the device may have been similar to that used to kill Mr Airey Neave, opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, at the House of Commons in 1979. Such devices are triggered by the removal of a point of pressure on the bomb or by being tilted by movement.

The device exploded almost exactly a week after the Provisional IRA announced its new mainland bombing campaign with a bomb hidden in a van outside Chelsea Barracks. Over the years police and security experts have advised people considering themselves possible targets. It covers checking cars left unattended before getting in; the treatment of unexpected or unusual letters or parcels; searching for listeners in the neighbourhood; checking unexpected appointments; made by telephone; overhauling locks and household security; and varying routes to and from work.

Sir Stuart Pringle's dog, which escaped injury.

## Socialists sweep to Greek victory

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Oct 18

The first socialist Government in Greece is expected to be sworn in on Tuesday after Mr Andreas Papandreu's victory in today's general election. The victory of the opposition Pan Hellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) touched off popular celebrations throughout Greece as crowds massed in squares for jubilant demonstrations.

In Athens, supporters defied the traditional election-night ban on traffic to drive into the city centre waving the party's green flag with the spiked rising sun, horns blaring rhythmically adding to the pandemonium. The latest results gave the Socialists 47.5 per cent of the votes against the ruling New Democracy's 35.7 per cent and 10.6 for the pro-Soviet Greek Communist Party. The small parties were practically wiped out.

Mr George Rallis, the Prime Minister, conceded defeat as soon as the first official results were announced by the computer. He came to the international press centre at the Grande Bretagne Hotel looking grave, and read a prepared statement. He said: 'The people have spoken, and their verdict will be respected by all. I do not believe it was the best choice. I hope the people will not come to regret it.'

Mr Rallis added: 'We hand over to the leader of Pasok a strong Greece. New Democracy, even from the opposition where the people's vote has placed it, will continue to discharge its duty towards the nation, and towards democracy.'

Mr Rallis, who telephoned Mr Papandreu tonight to offer his congratulations, said his Marxist terms meant the working class, yet it has specifically expanded the term to include farmers, the salaried and professional classes, scientists, young people and businessmen. —AFP

## Pressure of more cuts will test Cabinet unity

The cohesion of the Cabinet will be tested tomorrow when it meets for the first time for a month, under pressure from the Prime Minister and the Treasury to agree to public expenditure savings next year of several hundred million pounds. At the last discussion of public expenditure in full Cabinet in July Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, met strong resistance to his request for savings in next year's programmes. Since then, last month's Cabinet changes have put new men at the head of the largest spending departments. Both Mr Norman Fowler (Social Services) and Sir Keith Joseph (Education and Science) are strong supporters of the Treasury's strategy. But the Treasury's difficulties have also increased during the summer. On present estimates, public spending is likely to exceed planned levels for 1982-83 by £700m. The total has been swollen by demands from nationalised industries for higher external financing; by local government expenditure forecasts; and by increased estimates of the cost in social security benefits.

The unemployment figures for September, which are expected to exceed three million for the first time, will be before ministers to remind them of the expenditure burden, of the additional economic cost in lost tax revenue, and of the social cost which has made several senior members of the Government as well as a growing number of backbench Conservative MPs hostile to the Treasury's policy. The troubles of British Leyland will also be uppermost in ministers' minds. The worst prospect, but one which the Cabinet now believes it must face, is that BL may go into liquidation.

But if BL management and workers come to terms on a pay settlement, Sir Michael Edwards, the company's chairman, has told ministers that his investment programme will require several hundred million pounds more. Anger among backbenchers is Continued on back page, col 3

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### THE PROTECTOR ALARM







## Scargill says new candidate will ensure his victory

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire miners, confidently predicted last night that he will emerge an easy winner in the election for a new president of the National Union of Mineworkers. After the late entry of two more moderate candidates into the race over the last few days, his campaign managers now calculate that he will "walk it on the first ballot."

That assessment came after the weekend declaration by Mr Bernard Donohue, part-time president of the Lancashire miners, that he was standing for the top NUM job, in addition to the Nottinghamshire president, Mr Ray Chadburn, who has reluctantly given in to political pressure on him to take part in the contest. They join Mr Trevor Bell, right-wing leader of the union's white-collar section.

The electoral line-up with three weeks to go before nominations close shows Mr Scargill as the sole candidate of the left, facing three rival candidates from moderate coalfields and the traditionally right-wing colliery officials and staff areas (COsAs).

Other contenders may now feel free to come forward after the collapse of electoral discipline among the moderates, but a serious competitor from the left against Mr Scargill is not expected. The Yorkshire leader said last night: "With over half the colliery nominations declared, and knowing the support for me at this stage, I am convinced there will be a massive vote in my favour in December."

The decision by Lancashire miners' leaders to nominate Mr Donohue, who is almost unknown outside his own area, is thought to be a tactical move to draft a coalfield "favourite son" and so prevent miners in the

North-west lining up behind the Scargill nomination list.

The Yorkshire area leader, who has been campaigning for 18 months, already has his own area, South Wales, Scotland, Derbyshire, Kent and the Scottish craftsmen. To those six may be added the Durham colliery, where he is marginally ahead in a branch poll.

This winter's election for a new man to take the place of the moderate president, Mr Joseph Gormley, is seen as the most important trade union ballot of the decade. Nominations close early next month and voting takes place in secret at the pithead on December 2/3, with the result being declared by the Electoral Reform Society about a week later.

Electioneering is building up to fever pitch. Mr Scargill has 37 public and miners' meetings arranged in the coalfields over the next six weeks, apart from television appearances and underground pit visits. The culminating rally will be in the City Hall, Sheffield, on November 28.

Mr Gormley, who was among those seeking a rival moderate candidate other than Mr Bell, yesterday told an NUM weekend school at Whitby Bay, Tyne and Wear, that the political scene was very fragile and argued against another Ben-Hur "fracas". He added: "We could not stand another one of those. We want a Labour movement which can put up alternative policies."

Unless Labour solved its problems there would be a political watershed over the next decade.

The miners are to resume negotiations on their 25 per cent pay claim after being told that the industry can afford only basic rate increases of about 7 per cent.

## Family seek review of inquest on Rastafarian

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Organisations campaigning for black prisoners' rights are focusing on the case of a man and woman, both Rastafarians, who were given similar drugs after mental illness was diagnosed.

The family and friends of the man, Mr Richard (Cartoon) Campbell, are awaiting a ruling by the High Court on an application for judicial review of an inquest verdict in July 1980, that he died of self-neglect at Ashford Remand Centre after refusing food and drink.

The inquest jury, in a rider, criticised a lack of expert medical care and accommodation at the centre. Mr Campbell was diagnosed by a psychiatrist as suffering from schizophrenia.

The black woman, a former prisoner, is the subject of a campaign by the National Prisoners' Movement, which produced on her behalf a letter with a Holloway Prison heading, saying that, while inside, she was diagnosed as hypermanic. The letter says she was calmed by the drug depixol, but found the side-effects intolerable. She also received the drug largactil.

The report, an unofficial public inquiry led by Mr Tom Cox, Labour MP for Wandsworth, Tooting, into the death of Mr Campbell, says it heard evidence of the drugs that were prescribed for him in the month he was at Ashford.

The report says: "We do not know the timing or dosage of those drugs, but the inquest was told that Richard was prescribed three drugs, largactil, stemetil and depixol."

Depixol was at the centre of a controversy after publication of an article in the Prison Medical Journal in 1978 about its use on psychopaths in Albany Prison.

The Prison Department press office said that depixol was a widely recognized drug prescribed by qualified medical practitioners for the treatment of psychiatric conditions, not only in prison establishments but also outside them.

Though comment on the case of Mr Campbell awaits the High Court ruling, there is more general concern about the attitude of the prison authorities to Rastafarians, not least that the behaviour of Rastafarians might be misunderstood.

The concern centres on a circular to all prison departments, referred to but not quoted in a letter to *The Times* on October 9, which says: "This instruction gives guidance for dealing with inmates who claim to be Rastafarians and who may also claim to be members of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. It has been decided that Rastafarianism does not qualify as a religious denomination."

he circular adds: "In support of a request to be allowed to wear hair long, an inmate may claim he belongs to the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. It has been confirmed with the resident priest of that church that long hair is not a requirement and governors may therefore require hair to be cut."

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, claims that the circular indicates that the Home Office has taken "a sensible and considered approach."

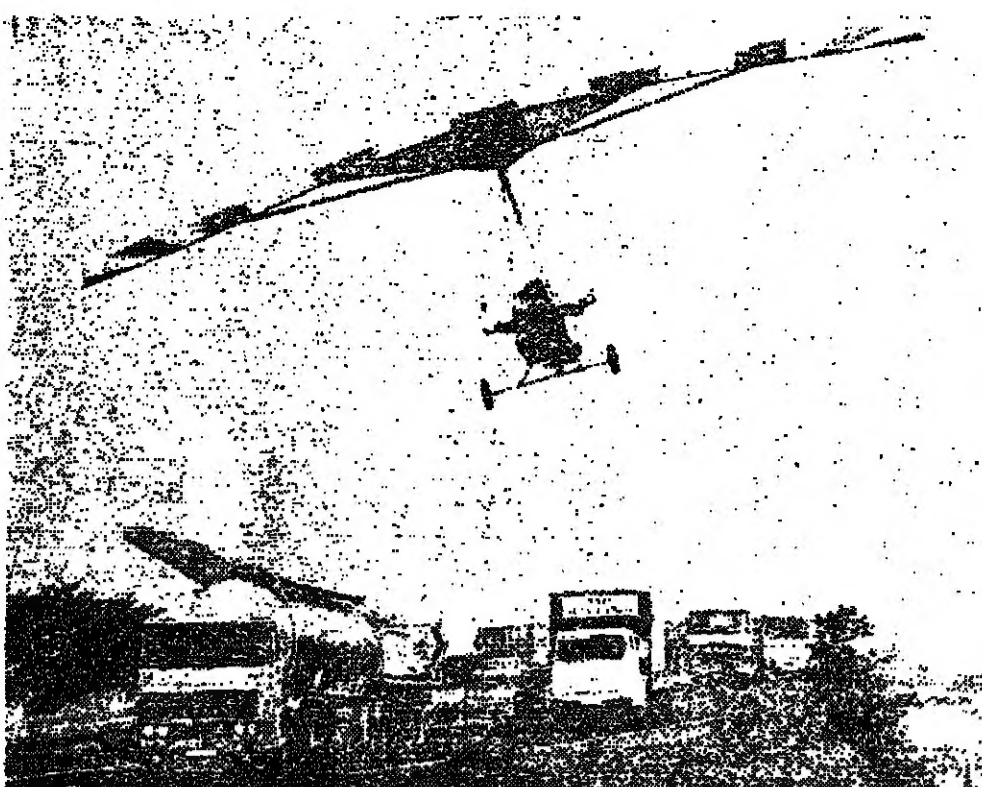
He said in Parliament on April 16: "Although prison rules require convicted prisoners to have their hair cut for neatness and hygiene, governors take a tolerant approach to long hair, including Rastafarian styles, as most visitors to our prisons will realize."

Rastafarians were involved in three of 26 racial incidents in prison listed by Mr D. W. Wickham, a tutor in the governor grade at the Prison Service Staff College, Wakefield, in a thesis he wrote at Cranfield Institute of Technology in 1978.

The incidents he says, were collated centrally in the Prison Department. The most serious included a melee at Wormwood Scrubs Prison involving 30 prisoners, some armed with makeshift weapons.

How much conflict in the prison system as a whole has racial origin is not easily estimated because prison staff find it difficult to define what is, or is not, racial.

Mr Colin Allen, governor of Maidstone Prison, where, in one wing black people are said to form up to 40 per cent of the population, said: "If society does not find any other way of dealing with young black people than by locking them up, the problems of young institutions today will be the problem of adult institutions tomorrow."



## Beating the traffic jams

Mr James Swales, a North Yorkshire businessman, swooping over heavy road traffic on his way to work in a powered hang-glider. The £1,500 craft has a 250cc engine and weighs less than a small motorcycle, it cruises at 45 mph over a 140-mile range and covers 100 miles on a gallon of petrol.

Mr Swales, who runs a plane hire and breakdown recovery service, bought the machine as a hobby, then began to use it when traffic jams on the busy A1 near his home at Lilac Farm, Kirk Deighton, hampered his journeys.

## Meat inspectors may hold ballot to step up dispute

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

Meat inspectors will today consider stepping up their work-to-rule in slaughterhouses throughout England and Wales. After four weeks in which the dispute has had little national effect on meat prices, the inspectors are considering regional strikes.

The National and Local Government Officers' association, which represents the 600 inspectors, said that it expected them to seek a ballot in two weeks.

A Nalco spokesman said: "We are fairly convinced that if nothing changes they would

rather step up the action to bring this to a head."

The employers have offered a rise in maximum pay from £6,333 to £7,137 a year. Nalco has claimed a ceiling of £7,375.

Nalco said that the greatest impact of the dispute had been felt in the West Midlands and south-west England where meat prices had risen by 8 or 10p a pound.

The employers said the effect on home meat supplies had been small. Shop prices of beef have risen by about 2p a pound or barely 1 per cent. Pork is up by about 2 per cent.

## BOREDOM ON DOLE BRINGS BABY BOOM

Unemployed young couples are having babies because of boredom, Dr Robert Snowden, a population expert and research director at Exeter University, said yesterday.

"Jobless young couples are having children because they have not much else to do," he said. "Having babies gives them some purpose and some reason for existence. Unfortunately, if the unemployed are having more children it means they will be relying even more on state aid."

For that reason the Government ought to give young people jobs even if it means subsidizing industry," he said.

## Joint union attack on 4% limit is nearer

By Donald Macintyre

Labour Correspondent

Pressure for a joint union pay offensive throughout the public sector will intensify next week with a call for a TUC one-day conference to discuss ways of exceeding the Government's 4 per cent limit on increases.

The National Union of Public employees and the Transport and General Workers' Union will urge the TUC General Council to convene an early conference to consider forms of mutual support between bargaining groups as disparate as hospital ancillary workers, busmen and miners.

The move, which was aired last week without conclusion at the TUC economic committee, follows directly Nupes' motion to last month's congress calling for cohesion on pay for public service and unionized industry employees.

There may well be resistance in the general council to the proposal for a conference, not least because the TUC traditionally has been reluctant to involve itself too overtly on that scale in issues directly related to pay bargaining.

Pay negotiations for the one million local authority manual workers, the largest public service group, have begun. The unions, of which Nupes is the largest, are seeking increases of about 12 per cent.

The general council approved Nupes' suggestion that public service groups, whether or not it exists, "The Americans are crazy for that sort of thing", Mr Paul Pegden-Smith, sales and marketing director of the Dairy Crest division of the board, explained.

The board's latest offering is a streamlined version of the ploughman's lunch in which the pickled onion is chopped and stirred into the cheese before it solidifies. "I think we might end up with a mild slicing cheese for breakfast," Mr Pegden-Smith said. "It is one of our new product development projects."

## Somerset cheese to please a ploughman

By Hugh Clayton

Lymeswold is depicted by its creator as a lightly wooded region of rolling hills and ancient buildings. This most English-sounding spot, which appears on no map, is being used to spearhead the cheese trade's efforts to drag itself out of the mousetrap era.

Silton is the only cheese brand which cannot carry the name unless it is produced near the place to which the name refers. The others can all be made anywhere, as Irish, Canadian, French and New Zealand exporters of Cheddar to this country have amply demonstrated.

Lymeswold has the distinction of being the first English cheese to carry an invented name. It is also the first soft blue English cheese. A third distinction, omitted in the eulogies issued by its creators at the Milk Marketing Board, is that at about £2 pound it is also one of the most expensive of home-produced cheeses.

Lymeswold will be sold from today in the southern counties of England, where market research shows that the wealthiest families live. The picture on the label is suggestive of Somerset.

The name is meant to ease its passage into the North American market, where incomes and cheese consumption levels are much higher than in Britain. The board has discovered there an insatiable demand for anything remotely suggestive of rural England, whether or not it exists. "The Americans are crazy for that sort of thing", Mr Paul Pegden-Smith, sales and marketing director of the Dairy Crest division of the board, explained.

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## Plea to save dental therapists

By Annabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent

The proposed closure of Britain's only school for dental therapists and the phasing out of the dental therapist grade was attacked yesterday by a leading dental expert.

Dr Aubrey Sheehan, senior lecturer in community dental health at the London Hospital Medical College, said it would result in a weakening of the community dental health service and consequently a reduction in preventive health work.

Dental therapists, who are allowed to carry out fillings, fluoride treatments and health education, are salaried members of the community dental health service who treat children.

Because they receive a salary, rather than a fee for each item, they are more inclined to do preventive work and less inclined to remove teeth or carry out unnecessary fillings than are general practitioner dentists.

The report of the Government-appointed Dental Strategy Review Body, published in September, recommended that dental therapists should be phased out and the School for Dental Therapists in New Cross, London, be closed.

Dr Sheehan said the decision to phase them out was political, brought about by demands from the dental profession. The grade was introduced about thirty years ago at a time when children were not being treated because dentists found them more difficult than adults and were paid less for them.

## Arms found in Devon murder hunt

Detectives hunting the murderer of Mrs Julie Rowe, the millionaire's wife who was shot six times at her home in Budeigh Salterton, Devon, a month ago, have uncovered arms and ammunition in a series of raids on homes in the county.

They seized 20 illegally held firearms, including a sten gun, two hand grenades, revolvers and shotguns, with a large quantity of ammunition.

Police were searching for the 22 automatic pistol which the killer used on Mrs Rowe, aged 42, a mother of two. None of the weapons seized was connected with the murder, police said.

Detectives believe that Mrs Rowe, whose husband, Mr Gerald Rowe, aged 39, owns a chain of food stores, opened the door to her killer. He then chased her round the ground floor of the luxury home, shooting her six times.

## EXPERTS REVIEW PROBLEM CITIES

More than 400 experts on European city development are due in Glasgow tomorrow for the launching conference of Project Turin International, a long-term plan to identify and tackle difficulties facing six European cities: Turin in Italy, Cologne in West Germany, Dresden in East Germany, Cracow in Poland, Lille in France, and Glasgow.

The conference's main themes are how public authorities can work with private investment to regenerate the urban economy, and how people can help city governments to reexamine priorities.

## Police players see red in pitch battle with busmen

A police football team is being asked to help league officials with their inquiries against a battling 90 minutes against a team of busmen.

The police had three players sent off, including their vice-captain. And the Cardiff team is being reported to district league officials, who are to hold a disciplinary hearing.

Temper flared during the second half as the busmen netted their fifth goal to lead 5-2. Police Constable Cedric Morgan, the centre-half and vice-captain, who had been booked in the first half for a foul, was given his marching orders as he picked up the ball from the back of the net

and hurled it at referee Mr Anthony Jones.

Crowds gathered to watch as the game on an adjoining pitch stopped. Minutes later Police Constable Jan Horsey, who had been booked earlier in the game for foul language, was sent off for alleged swearing.

Ten minutes later a third team member, Police Constable Peter Stone, was sent off also for allegedly swearing.

The game ended with the score at 6-2 to Cardiff City Transport. And the referee stayed in the dressing room until the police team left the park.

## Record \$860,000 for a royal bookcase

A Queen Anne black japanned bureau bookcase made early in the eighteenth century and once in the collection of Queen Mary, the Duke of Windsor and more recently Merle Oberon, the film actress, sold to a private American collector at Christie's in New York on Saturday for \$860,000 (£462,366).

It is by far the most expensive piece of English furniture to be sold at auction, and was sent by the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York.

Christie's had published an estimate in the region of \$250,000, but the company

reported "a roomful of bids at the \$500,000 mark and a battle royal in the closing stages". When last offered at auction in Los Angeles from the collection of Merle Oberon in 1973 the piece realized \$95,000.

Prices for other lots in the sale of English and Continental furniture, clocks and objects of art totalled \$2,472,072 (£1,329,071), with 11 per cent unsold.

The sale was notable for the pre-eminence of private buyers. A New York collector paid \$210,000 (£112,903) for a suite of George III giltwood seat furniture, probably de-

signed by Robert Adam, circa 1773, and more than double the estimate of \$70,000 to \$100,000. The pair of sofas and six armchairs were probably made for the Duke of Bolton and resemble a slightly richer design, also of 1773.

Another collector paid \$58,000 (£31,183) for a Regency rosewood and amboyna ormolu-mounted sofa table (estimate \$40,000 to \$60,000).

At Christie's jewellery sale in New York on Friday, an unnamed London dealer was run to \$880,000 (£468,000) for a sapphire and diamond bracelet by Cartier.



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## Hunt for gold may be halted by sacrilege claim

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh.

The recovery of £3.5m of gold bullion remaining in the wreck of HMS Edinburgh 800ft down in the Barents Sea may be jeopardized by allegations that during recent diving operations human remains received unseemly treatment.

The business consortium responsible for lifting £43m of gold from the wreck, which is an official war grave, hope to mount a second diving expedition next year to retrieve 34 bars of gold left when bad weather made diving at such extreme depths impossible.

Sixty men died in the cruiser after she had been hit by German torpedoes in May 1942.

A report in *The Sunday Times* yesterday said that during the diving operation human remains were tossed back into the water in a casual way. In the wreck itself, the report said, chemical lights were placed inside skulls in the bomb room where the gold was stored, in order to startle the next diver down.

Mr James Ringrose, operations manager for Jessop Marine Recoveries, said yesterday on BBC radio that the company had been shocked and very, very surprised to learn about the allegations. The operation had been monitored by representatives of the British and Soviet governments. An immediate inquiry to establish the facts had been ordered.

The consortium was under strict contract not to disturb the war grave. "If these events have taken place, we would have to weigh very carefully what we would do in future," he said.

Mr Michael Stewart, project manager for the recovery operation, said yesterday that he doubted the reports. "As far as can be practically ascertained, there was no such incident," he said.

"We believe there were two occasions on which bone may have been returned to the sea without realizing what it was."

When more bone was found, a service for burial at sea was held.

At the press conference given by the divers in Aberdeen last Friday the first man to enter the wreck, a former Royal Navy diver, he had observed a two-minute silence for the men who had died, and before the diving support ship, *Stephaniturn*, left the location a memorial service was held.

The *Sunday Times* report made clear that only one or two of the 12 divers on board had acted in a disrespectful way.

On board the *Stephaniturn* was Mr David Keogh, representing the Ministry of Defence and the War Graves Commission. The ministry said yesterday that until the report he was preparing had been studied they could not comment.

## Scarman review of complaints procedure

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Reforms in the handling of complaints against the police to help to make them more publicly accountable are being considered by Lord Scarman as he completes his report on the Brixton riots.

The most radical option open to him is one favoured by Sir Cyril Phillips, chairman of the Police Complaints Board. That is for the board to take over from the Director of Public Prosecutions the decision whether to prosecute police on less serious charges.

If it was thought that a prosecution in court might fail, evidence might still be strong enough for disciplinary procedures to be used. The board would be able to choose which course.

Sir Cyril had a meeting with Lord Scarman when the latter was in the later stages of drawing up his report.

The role of the Chief Inspector of Constabulary is also considered to be of key importance in making the police accountable.

Making the chief inspector responsible for keeping an eye on the Metropolitan Police would also give the Home Secretary, as its police authority, more power to keep it under scrutiny. Provincial police forces are overseen by local police authorities.

Sir Cyril favours greater liaison between the chief inspector, the Home Secretary, local police authorities and the complaints board, and between them and chief constables.



Mr and Mrs Whitelaw arriving to a guard of honour at Westminster Abbey (Photograph by Bill Warhurst)

## Why the police depend on the Specials

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

One hundred and fifty years after the Special Constabulary was regularized by Act of Parliament, its members have turned from being an emergency arm of the police service to a vital adjunct, whose absence might strain police manpower.

Yesterday Princess Margaret and Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, attended a thanksgiving service at Westminster Abbey to mark the anniversary of the Special Constables Act, 1831. At that time all that was envisaged

was a special constabulary which could be sworn in by local magistrates to serve during an emergency.

The Victorian Specials saw service during the Chartist upheavals of the 1840s and the Fenian alarm of the 1860s. They were seen as the embodiment of the legal theory that every male subject of the Crown is a potential policeman and sometimes compared with the parish constables of previous centuries. But the First World War

marked the end of the idea of a temporary attachment, and the Special Constable could now serve for an indefinite period.

Sometimes the butt of music hall jokes, the Specials became a familiar sight on the streets. Since the Second World War they have been used more and more as an auxiliary, plugging gaps created by the police manpower shortages.

Today they are on patrol at weekends covering for regular officers by controlling

crowds. They are among the officers at football matches and along the streets during ceremonial events.

One police force has used them on motorway patrols and they act as observers in police patrol cars in the cities.

In the Metropolitan Police report for 1980 Sir David McNee, the commissioner, noted that the 1,674 Specials serving in London had worked 77,286 hours of duty apart from their normal every-day jobs, and 44,971 hours of training.

## Editor wants more black journalists

Newspaper editors were urged yesterday to apply the utmost sensitivity in their treatment of reports about racial difficulties. Mr Arnold Hadwin, president of the Guild of Newspaper Editors, warned his colleagues to be on their guard against both malice and ineptitude.

Speaking at the guild's annual meeting at Bath, he emphasized the need for greater efforts to employ coloured reporters so that the face of British journalism was not entirely white.

Mr Hadwin said: "We have been faced in recent months with grave responsibilities in reporting on the violence that has erupted in many city centres."

He called for greater understanding and tolerance from both journalists and police when dealing with ethnic minorities, adding: "This is an area in which we need the utmost sensitivity. Reporting and policing in a multicultural society require a high standard of professionalism, judgement and common sense, and in the case of the police scrupulous attention to discipline. Our choice of language, of head lines and of pictures is crucial."

Mr Hadwin, editor of the *Bradford Telegraph and Argus*, continued: "The presence of black policemen and black school teachers has given authority a white face in the eyes of many young blacks. I believe it is important that the face of journalism should not be white."

He added: "Many of us frequently write leaders about equality of job opportunity for ethnic groups. It should apply to journalism as to all other activities in our society."

## Law 'should withhold names of accused'

From Ronald Keogh, Bridlington.

The newly elected president of the National Association of Probation Officers yesterday argued that every defendant in a British court should remain anonymous until he or she was convicted.

Professor Nigel Walker, strongly criticized British law for generally making no distinction between the guilty and innocent in the identification of defendants.

Speaking at Bridlington, he went so far as to say he would support the argument for every first offender to enjoy the anonymity that applied to juvenile courts.

Professor Walker, until recently director of the Cambridge Institute of Criminology, said: "I am talking about the way defendants who are eventually acquitted can be, and often are, named by the news media when they are charged, committed for trial or tried."

The naming is often accompanied by details of their private lives which are often in evidence or which are obtained by other inquiries. The British attitude seemed to be that this was what was required if a criminal offence was committed.

He said: "You give a local public the right to know about you. This is not the attitude of every civilized country. The Swedes, though no less civilized, are no less tired by the Swedish way of life. We are by our, do, not consider that the names of offenders are proper material for the news."

Their news media voluntarily refrain from putting most people who were put on trial. The exceptions were unusual cases such as well known terrorists or bank robbers. He added: "Of course, this makes Swedish news more boring than ours."

Professor Walker said that like virtually all Western countries, Britain protected the names of juvenile offenders by law. Even there, of course, Britain was inconsistent. "If the trial is in the crown court there is no ban on identification unless the judge makes a special order; and judges sometimes forget or decide to make no order."

Professor Walker said the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act prohibited only the listing of a named person to his offence after a certain time had passed. "The time varies from six months to 10 years, according to the sentence, and there is no protection if the sentence is a prison term of 30 months or more."

"What I am criticizing is the fact that we make no distinction between the guilty and the innocent when it comes to identifying defendants."

It is a myth that courts have become more lenient towards juvenile offenders, and offence rates for boys have been falling since 1974 and those for girls seem to have levelled off. (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

These conclusions can be drawn from a report by the Department of Health and Social Security on offending by young people. They make sharp contrast with calls for tougher punishments, for the study shows that tougher punishments have become more frequent.

The number of juveniles sent to detention centres and borstals has risen fivefold since 1965, the report says. *Offending by Young People: A Survey of Recent Trends* (DHSS, £4.15).

# Watch out. Whitehall has plans for your local elections.

There's some very worrying legislation about to creep in and out of Parliament.

The idea is to take away your Local Authority's power to levy rates.

If you hate rates (and who doesn't), you could be fooled into believing it's good news.

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We'll both come up against this innocent looking law. And like all laws, just try arguing with it.

It won't matter if your local councillor agrees the roads are bad (he lives there too).

It won't matter if classes at the local school are too big (he'll probably have children there).

It won't matter if there's no room at the old people's home for our senior citizens.

There will be no point in appealing to us.

In fact there will be no real point in electing councillors at all.

As things are, our doors are open. Whitehall's will stay closed.

Governments ask you to give them your vote when it suits them.

Make no mistake. With this legislation, as far as local elections are concerned, they might as well take your right to vote away.

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THIS ADVERTISEMENT HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES, REPRESENTING A LARGE NUMBER OF ENGLISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, IN THE BELIEF THAT YOU SHOULD BE KEPT INFORMED.



## Letters footnote unethical, Press Council rules

A newspaper which published letters from two trades union leaders denying a report of their conversation added an unethical footnote which, in effect, invited readers to "disbelieve them," the Press Council has found.

To that extent the council upheld a complaint by the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs and Mr Clive Jenkins, its general secretary, against the *Daily Mail*. They complained that the newspaper published a report with a fabricated reference to an alleged conversation of Mr Clive Jenkins that when he complained to the editor an edited version of his letter appeared which insulted his integrity by giving readers the impression that the letter printed was the content of his view; and that the paper unethically replied to the printed version.

The Press Council did not agree that Mr Jenkins's letter was improperly edited and it rejected that element of the complaint against the *Daily Mail*.

The Press Council's adjudication was: The original article, headed "Clive by Clive", a great Labour "dunni" to which Mr Clive Jenkins took exception was, in the Press Council's view, ambiguous.

The footnote broadly quoted Miss Mandy Rice-Davies's well known answer "They would, wouldn't they?" which the newspaper added to Mr Jenkins' and Mr Evans' letters, removed the ambiguity. It made clear that the newspaper intended the account as a factual one.

The newspaper did publish an account of an alleged conversation which is unsupported by evidence, and its reply in the footnote was unethical. To this extent the complaint against the *Daily Mail* is upheld.

The Press Council does not agree that Mr Jenkins's letter was improperly edited, and that complaint against the *Daily Mail* is rejected.

## Dutch enter Stansted lists

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

Amsterdam is renewing its claim to be the "painless alternative" to London's third airport as the inquiry into Stansted gets under way.

Amsterdam's Schiphol, an international airport with substantial spare capacity, could provide much of the extra service London is going to need without the fierce opposition from local residents which each of the British sites has evoked, the Dutch city says.

It has the support of some British provincial airports who would benefit through feeder services to and from Schiphol, whereas a third

London airport within Britain could take away some of their traffic.

British airlines fear they could lose international traffic via Amsterdam, though their feeder services would gain.

To press its case, Amsterdam is organizing a two-day conference at Schiphol next month at which Mr Norman Payne, chairman of the British Airports Authority, who is strongly pressing the case for Stansted, and Sir Colin Buchanan, who is strongly opposing it, will be among the speakers.



## Asyut police deny torturing their prisoners

From Robert Fisk, Asyut, Oct 18

Lieutenant-Colonel Muhammad Sachi El-Mosalamy broke into a peal of hoarse laughter. "Torture?" he asked. "No. We never, never hurt our prisoners."

A chorus of high-pitched laughter arose from the clutch of plainclothes men who sat around the walls, sipping tea from glass cups. One of them overwhelmed at the absurdity of such a suggestion slapped his thigh in derision while a Special Branch man in a bright pink shirt giggled uncontrollably beneath a dusty grandfather clock that had long ago stopped.

An old tin fan was noisily but vainly fighting the heat in the corner of the room. The officers in charge of the Asyut constabulary sweated profusely. Outside in the mosquito-darkness of the police barracks security men carrying automatic rifles guarded a group of blindfolded men who sat on the floor of a grubby room — their hands tied to their ankles, or behind their backs.

On a broken wooden bench by the barrack gates an old woman dressed in black wept and pleaded with a young security guard holding a Kalashnikov rifle. Her wailing and sobbing went on and on like a ritual of mourning, rising and falling as more prisoners, their faces pinched with anxiety, were escorted into the barracks. The security man ignored her.

To described the Asyut police as nervous would be something of an understatement. More than a week after Muslim gunmen attacked two of the city's police stations with machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades, Colonel El-Mosalamy's gendarmerie is still hunting the culprits. The gendarmes have been forced to concede that Asyut's allegedly peaceful and law-abiding population is not quite law-abiding enough to betray the whereabouts of the wanted men. Fifteen of those believed to have been involved in the attacks have however been arrested and subjected to

He claims they are members of the colonel's questioning. of Takfir Wal Hegira, the Islamic "Atonement and Flight from Sin" movement which was responsible for President Sadat's assassination.

"These people," the colonel said, "are mad. They import ideas from Libya and Russia and they take Libyan money."

What Colonel El-Mosalamy is less happy to reveal is that Asyut has been a seat of anti-Sadat radicalism for years. It

revolt was going to emerge in any Egyptian city, it was almost certain to occur here.

When the attacks came—just two days after President Sadat's assassination—they took the lives of dozens of policemen. Colonel El-Mosalamy says that about 40 died, including members of his police force, but another officer admitted that this was a "figure for foreigners". The true count was well over 100.

Colonel El-Mosalamy's men like to pretend that normalcy has returned to Asyut. In the bullet-scorched Number 1 police district station, which had been one of the main targets of the rebels, a security man holding a whip with metal studded handle cheerfully offered foreign correspondents tea, flicking at the teapot with a whip when he was slow to carry out his orders. It was all done in an immensely friendly fashion. There was no trouble now, we were told. Everything was perfectly normal.

But in the streets Egyptian troops watched the roots for snipers. When we tried to enter a hotel a young soldier walked up to us, waving a pistol and demanding to know our business. Whenever we approached a military building, the soldiers outside greeted us at rifle point.

Asyut is the sort of place where people naturally watch each other closely. Half the city's population are Copts but Islam dominates the surrounding villages.

Even Colonel El-Mosalamy admits that there is a gun in almost every house because family feuds down here are settled with a finality that makes the law courts seem redundant.

Perhaps it is this hard life that has bred a kind of indifference within the police force. Last week, a correspondent in Asyut saw a prisoner being led across the courtyard of the police barracks. When a door was opened in front of him, he almost fainted at what he saw on the other side.

What was behind the door, we asked the colonel—and what happened to a prisoner who had been cut about the face before being thrown into an army lorry a week ago? The colonel laughed again.

But what was behind the door? And what had happened to the man thrown into the lorry? Colonel El-Mosalamy was still laughing. He turned towards us and said: "It is a secret." And all the policemen giggled.

## University fanatics are forced to hide

From Christopher Walker, Cairo, Oct 18

The Egyptian Government's struggle to quell the growing tide of support for Islamic militancy, among the nation's 500,000 students, began in earnest this weekend when all but three of the country's 17 universities opened for their new term after a summer break of nearly three months.

[The authorities said tonight that they had arrested 230 members of a Muslim fundamentalist organisation plotting assassinations and attacks on vital installations. A large quantity of weapons and explosives were seized, Reuters reports.]

Egyptian ministers and foreign diplomats accept that the overcrowded campuses have become the most important battleground in the war against the fundamentalists. Even before the Sadat assassination, a strict series of regulations had been ordered. These included a complete campus ban on the wearing of the galabeya, the flowing male robe, and the nightgown, the enveloping veil favoured by girl students.

In addition many of the leading university activists were among the 1,600 arrested in last month's purge. More than 50 academic suspected of fundamentalist sympathies were dismissed.

All political activity on the campuses has been banned. Although there was a familiar beginning of term bustle in the ramshackle quadrangle at Ain Shams, Cairo's biggest university, much of the talk was about the draconian new disciplinary code.

There was an almost complete absence of beards. It is feared the militants have simply been driven underground.

□ Tel Aviv: Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, today contradicted a reported statement by President Reagan and reaffirmed categorically his deep concern about the proposed American-Saudi arms deal (Moshe Brilliant, writes).

Mr Begin said: "In order to remove any doubts or misunderstandings, it is my duty to state that throughout my recent visit to the United States, I pointed out and explained the two-fold arms deal with Saudi Arabia poses a grave threat to the security of Israel."

"Since this is the meaning of the supply of offensive equipment for the F-15 planes and the A-7 surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia, I was—and still am—deeply worried."

□ Sinai protest: Twenty-three Israeli families moved into an hotel and vacant flats in the Sinai town of Yamit today to help to block Israel's scheduled withdrawal from the area (AP reports).



The family at Moshe Dayan's graveside yesterday: Mrs Rachel Dayan is flanked by her husband's stepdaughters, Murit and Orna. On the right is his daughter Yael.

## Zia blasts judiciary in Pakistan

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, Oct 18

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan said yesterday his country's legal system was seething with corruption and involved delays and expense which denied justice to most people.

He pleaded strongly for the replacement of the present system, which he said was inherited from the colonial rulers of the sub-continent, with a system of Islamic justice. But he said this could not be done overnight, and would not work unless judges had the fear of God in them and were imbued with the spirit of Islamic justice.

President Zia was speaking at the opening of a series of courses for judges, police officers and lawyers—the Islamic judicial system and the principles of Islamic sharia and fiqh. The first course is being attended by 30 people.

Justice Shaikh Afrab Husain, chairman of the Federal sharia court, who formally inaugurated the course in Islamic law and its principles, complained that in many cases where people were prosecuted under existing Islamic laws, the prosecution and the judges failed in their obligations.

Sometimes the requirements of Islamic law were not observed and sentences were unsuitable.

## Argentine conspiracy to 'exterminate Jews'

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Oct 18

The silence of the Roman Catholic Church, politicians and the Jewish community in Argentina made it easier for the Government in Buenos Aires to practice "a policy of extermination", in the opinion of the exiled editor and publisher of an Argentine newspaper who is expected to arrive in London tomorrow after taking part in a council of Europe colloquy on human rights here.

Señor Jaccho Timmerman, publisher until his arrest in 1977 of *La Opinión* of Buenos Aires, and author of *Prisoner without a name*, told *The Times* in Madrid that his book, about the two and a half years he spent as a political prisoner in Argentina, was intended to call attention to the danger of remaining silent, rather than merely to denounce antisemitism and human rights violations in general.

The book, which appeared last May in the United States and last July in Britain (published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson), is now in its eighth hardcover printing and is expected to be distributed in at least 10 languages.

"What went on in Argentina is horrible," he said, "even if nothing else happens. Entire families were slain. There was a policy of extermination."

"It was explained to me by a naval officer that they were going to kill all the guerrillas, their parents and their children. This is horrible enough, but the great drama of this age is silence."

"We kept quiet at first about Hitler's deeds. We kept quiet about Mussolini. We hushed up so many mistakes. We silenced what was going on in Cambodia. This is horrible enough, but the great drama of this age is silence."

"We have seen how people were killed in the secret prisons where I was. Then their bodies were thrown into the sea from helicopters. They just 'disappeared'."

"In Argentina, there were babies born in prisons who disappeared for ever. They were given to childless military couples. Some children were killed. The bodies of little ones were found. There were babies sold in other countries. Roberto Cox, editor of the *Buenos Aires Herald* (now in exile), and myself—our papers were the only dailies to mention the matter."

"My book says that in Hitler's early days (of power in 1933) when the first measures were taken against Jews in Germany the Jews kept quiet in the rest of the world, and my book says that the Jews of the world are also keeping quiet about the antisemitic measures, the aggressions which occur in Argentina today, and that the Argentine Jews, like the German Jews, remain silent."

"There is a repetition of the silence, not a repetition of the Holocaust. Nobody can forecast a Holocaust."

"The status of Jews is deteriorating in Argentine society in an unofficial way. Jewish professionals are being excluded from jobs with the state-owned companies, and in Argentina is public opinion. So that means a very dangerous situation. In the public hospitals you do not see Jewish doctors any more, nor Jews in the judiciary, and not in the universities, and this does not follow any official announcement."

"It simply happens, as in the Soviet Union, without any official warning. In these circumstances, the Catholic Church is also silent in Argentina, and the political parties, not just the Jews. It's not only the Jews who are afraid. Everyone is afraid."

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## 10,000 rounded up in Sudan

From Nick Worrall, El Geneina, Sudan, Oct 18

More than a dozen men are awaiting trial after security sweeps in Khartoum in which more than 10,000 people have been rounded up and questioned and arms seized in recent weeks. On Saturday another 1,000 men were taken for interrogation.

Those still held have confessed to being Libyan agents infiltrated into Sudan and awaiting orders to join an armed uprising, according to Major-General Omer Muhammad el Tayib, the head of Sudanese state security.

General Tayib linked the arrests to what he called a three-pronged Libyan plan to overthrow the Nimeiry Government. The elements of the plan were assassination, political and economic subversion and actual military warfare using a spearhead of dissident Sudanese trained in Libya.

In the latest Libyan raid into Sudan, old Italian aircraft belonging to the Libyan Air Force launched a bomb attack at the weekend on the Sudanese western border village of Kolbus, 80 miles north of El Geneina in an attempt to dislodge the ragged guerrilla army of Mr Hissene Habre, the former Chad leader. But Mr Habre, who is sup-

ported by Sudan and Egypt in his campaign to overthrow the Libyan supported Government of President Goukounti Quedel, had slipped out of Kolbus, with several hundred of his men to harass Libyan military bases inside Chad.

Here at El Geneina (the garden), a verdant oasis nearly 300 desert miles from Khartoum, news of the Libyan attack using aircraft dating from the Second World War was greeted with derision from officers and men of the Sudanese Army who are dug in along the 750-mile border with Libya and Chad, while leaders in Khartoum and Tripoli trade military threats.

"One officer said that Colonel Muammar Gaddafi of Libya was 'scared to risk his MiGs in case we shoot them down. So he uses these old planes, flying them high for safety, and drops bombs on targets the pilots cannot see. We have had very few casualties because most of the bombs do not go off'."

The Libyan leader has become a greater threat to Sudanese security, since last December when his military aid helped President Goukounti to power in Chad.

The present bombing attacks

on Sudan are launched from a Libyan airbase at Aheche, 100 miles inside Chad. While the military here in El Geneina are confident, the impact of Libyan radio propaganda and the security sweeps in Khartoum have unnerved village populations along the border, some of whom have also suffered bombing raids albeit inaccurate raids.

More than 22,000 refugees from Chad and from Sudanese villages have passed through El Geneina where the United Nations High Commission for Refugees has a vast tent camp. At the camp a three-woman British Red Cross medical team led by Dr Liz Archer of Sussex is working to remove bullets and shrapnel from refugees and cure the range of endemic diseases.

Few Sudanese believe President Nimeiry's assertion in Cairo last week that intervention by Libya is imminent. But the military here, equipped with dated arms given by the Soviet Union before the Russians were expelled in 1971, will be relieved when the \$100m (£55m) in arms promised last week by Washington arrives. First shipments are due in early December.

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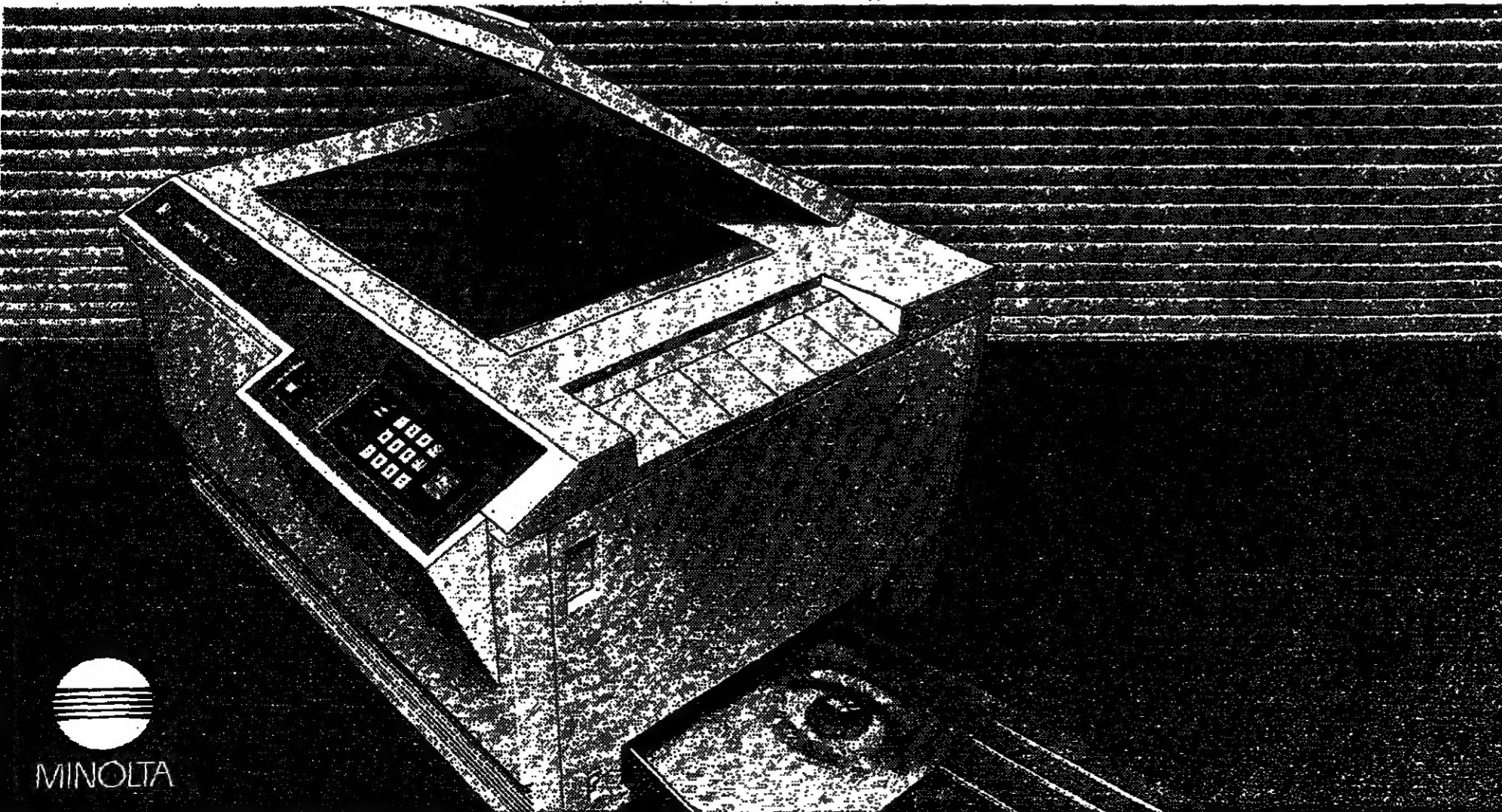
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## Romania follows Poland with food rationing

Vienna, Oct 18.—Romania has become the second Eastern block country after Poland to ration food since the end of wartime rationing.

Yesterday Romania announced bread rationing, setting annual consumption limits on wheat and maize products and making it a criminal offence to feed grain to animals. The ration of bread and flour-based products works out at about 410 grams (1lb) per person a day, the average allocation of maize, a local staple, will be around 2.5 kilograms a month.

These measures, which follow floods and drought earlier this year, come amid reports of growing shopping queues, informal rationing in some parts of the country and occasional work stoppages in protest against food shortages.

There are no indications that popular unrest has reached explosive proportions under the strict regime of President Ceausescu, but he and other communist leaders will need no

reminding of the unrest caused by food shortages in Poland. Other East block countries also face the possibility of some shortages due to bad weather in the area, though they are not expected to be critical.

The weather has played a part in Romania's poor agricultural results this year but the system has taken much of the blame. Mr Ceausescu admitted earlier this year that his Government had neglected the farm sector in its eagerness to industrialize Romania, which has the lowest living standard in the Soviet block, and has criticized inefficiency and waste.

Romanian officials have pointed out to Western journalists some of the problems, such as expensive equipment left idle by fuel shortages and lack of spare parts, and a largely unqualified labour force in the state farms.

Last August, in a clear departure from Romania's highly collectivized farm system, the Government decided to allocate private land to individuals to

encourage production, and halted profitable food exports to make up for domestic shortages.

This aggravated a foreign exchange problem which is making Western bankers reluctant to extend further credit to allow Romanians to buy food abroad. Western diplomats estimate that this year's grain harvest will be around 19 million tonnes, compared with the planned 23.7 million tonnes and last year's 20.2 million tonnes.—Reuter.

Hoarding opposed: Bakeries may sell only to local residents, according to the new decree, which encourages residents of mountainous and other non grain-producing regions to develop fruit, meat, milk, cheese and egg production.

Hardly a week earlier, the Romanian Government announced that anyone hoarding such staples as oil, sugar, rice, flour and coffee in amounts surpassing one month's normal consumption would be guilty of speculation, and liable to prison terms of six months to five years.—APF.

## Kania: the balancing act fails

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Stanislaw Kania was a Politburo member in charge of public security for several years before his sudden appointment as Polish party leader in September last year. He had a reputation for toughness and pragmatism.

He was born in 1927 in the village of Wrocanka and started work at the age of 15. His political career coincided with the war and the resistance movement in Poland. He joined the peasant battalion and after the war became a member of the Polish Communist Party.

Mr Kania's talent, as tactical, judging the opportunities as they arose and taking decisions in the direction people wanted to go—but within the system. His reputation was for loyalty, acting carefully and for his wholehearted commitment to the party.

In his first policy statement on taking over, he pledged himself to restore the broken link between the Communist Party and Polish society and to carry out the agreement which the authorities had reached with the workers in the Baltic ports, conceding the right to free trade unions. But this balancing act, as recent developments in Poland have shown, was subject to almost intolerable strains as each side sought to assert its claims.

## Jaruzelski: patriot who defends Soviet alliance

By Richard Davey

General Wojciech Jaruzelski became the first defence minister in the history of communism to be chosen as party leader. It is not mere chance that this has happened in Poland, where the Army is regarded, together with the Church, as embodying the nation's patriotism.

In fact, it is generally assumed that in certain circumstances the Polish Army, or substantial parts of it, would fight an invading Soviet force. It seems unlikely that General Jaruzelski would lead such an armed resistance, since he is a vigorous defender of the alliance with the Soviet Union, but he is known and widely respected as a patriot and as one who is deeply reluctant to use the Polish Army to put down internal disorder.

During the food riots of 1976 he is believed to have told a meeting of political leaders that they could not rely on the Army to get strikers out of factories. He took the same position during the strikes of August 1980, which gave birth to Solidarity.

General Jaruzelski now aged 58, has made his entire career in the Army. He was born in 1923 in Kurow, near Lublin to a family of landed gentry. After the start of the war he was deported to the Soviet Union, where in 1943 he joined Polish units being trained there.

He went through officer training and later fought first as a platoon commander and

then as a regimental reconnaissance commander in many battles, which eventually brought him to Warsaw.

He joined the party in 1947 and moved rapidly through staff college until in 1960 he became chief of the Army's main political board. In 1962 he was made Vice-minister of Defence, in 1965 Chief of Staff, and in 1968 Minister of Defence. He was elected to the Central Committee in 1970 and to the Politburo in 1971. He became Prime Minister on February 11, 1981.

In political terms, he is regarded as a moderate who fully accepts that a new system of government is required but has criticized extremists in Solidarity, especially those who attack the Soviet Union.

In a speech to the Parliament on September 25 he said: "The party... does not intend to leave the road of socialist renewal. There can be no return to the evil pre-August methods. Their costs are too great for our generation to forget them."

He went on to outline his ideas for "the broadest possible social coalition platform" and echoed the slogan of "reconciliation" ("He who is not against us is with us") adopted by Mr Kadar, the Hungarian party leader, by saying that "Everyone who is not against socialism can create with us new forms of constructive co-operation".



Herr Schmidt saying farewell to the nurses who looked after him in the Koblenz Bundeswehr hospital.

## Schmidt leaves hospital to work all hours

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct 18

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, was back in harness today only six days after apparently suffering a serious heart trouble and five days after having a pacemaker implanted.

The Chancellor, who is 62, met leaders of the Social Democrat and Free Democrat coalition parties to discuss fresh problems that have arisen over the controversial 1982 budget, only a month after it had been agreed on with great difficulty. Officials expected him back as usual in his office tomorrow and doubted if he would be able to cut down his gruelling schedule, which normally averages 16 hours a day.

Before he left the Bundeswehr hospital in Koblenz last night, Herr Schmidt said: "At first I will do an hour less on something like that. But it is not necessary."

Asked if he would be able to restrict himself to only 12 hours of work a day, he said: "No, no one can get by with 12 hours a day."

The Chancellor's staff have repeatedly insisted that he is well, calm and rested after his operation and that the pacemaker would not reduce his work capacity in the slightest.

There is still no explanation why the Chancellor's aides have refused to comment on ever more insistent reports

that he had been in a serious condition and had suffered numerous blackouts before the operation. There is rising suspicion, voiced particularly by the news magazine *Der Spiegel*, that they were trying to give West Germans the impression that they still had a strong man at the helm.

The only trouble, according to the magazine, was that "in their anxiety to cultivate the image of an active Schmidt, the Chancellor's aides were spreading doubt and mistrust."

Who is to believe that Becker (the government's spokesman) is telling the truth when he announces shortly that the patient is fully recovered?

The conservative newspaper *Die Welt*, in a leading article entitled "Pitiless", claimed that the Chancellor was being driven back to his office out of fear that Bonn politics would ignore him if he stayed away to convalesce.

Despite efforts by the Social Democrats to stifle the rumours, speculation is continuing about the Chancellor's health. The tabloid *Bild am Sonntag* predicted that he would resign at the end of 1982 half-way through the current legislature—but concluded like all other commentators, that he has no obvious successor at present.

## CZAR TO BE CANONIZED IN AMERICA

New York, Oct 18.—Czar Nicholas II, his family and about 8,000 other victims of the Russian Revolution will be canonized here later this month as martyred saints of the Russian Orthodox Church, according to church officials in exile.

Nicholas, his wife Alexandra, their children and the family's physician, maid, cook and footman will be canonized along with thousands of other Christians believed to have been murdered by communists.

"Never in the history of the church have so many people been canonized, because at no time have there been so many Christian martyrs," according to Bishop Gregory, secretary to the synod of bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church outside Russia.

He said the list of martyrs was based partially on information smuggled out of the Soviet Union.—AP.

## America seeks deep cuts in nuclear weaponry

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The latest American ideas on arms control aimed at reducing the number of nuclear weapons of the superpowers will be outlined to Nato defence ministers in Scotland tomorrow.

The ideas relate to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), which have been stalled since Congress refused to ratify the SALT 2 Treaty signed by President Carter. The bilateral negotiations are due to resume early next year after pressure by the allies on the Reagan Administration. The Americans would like to see them begin under a different acronym—SART.

This stands for Strategic Arms Reduction talks, reflecting American ambitions to return to the superpower stance adopted by President Carter in 1977, when he tried to insist that the Russians should agree to reduce their strategic stockpile instead of simply limiting its growth.

His initiative was snubbed by President Brezhnev. SALT 2 was a compromise based on guidelines established between the Russians and President Ford at Vladivostok in 1974.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, will disclose SALT 2 policy at a Nuclear Planning Group meeting tomorrow in

Scotland. His briefing to the allies on the strategic balance as perceived from Washington, will take place tomorrow morning and will be followed by a discussion of the theatre (medium-range) nuclear balance in Europe. The United States will also start talking to the Russians in Geneva on November 30 about limiting the number of theatre nuclear weapons, but wants to do so with the backing of a united alliance.

Mr Weinberger, while consulting the allies, as the United States has promised, will need to tread a delicate path by assuring them of American dedication to arms control, while at the same time emphasizing the need for toughness.

Britain and Italy have agreed a station nuclear cruise missiles on their soil and have named the bases. The West German Government, although anxious to follow suit, is embarrassed by strong political and popular opposition, while Holland and Belgium have not decided.

Antwerp's Belgian bishops criticized Nato's decision to deploy nuclear missiles in Western Europe and lauded Belgium for withholding policy at a Nuclear Planning Group meeting tomorrow in

## IN BRIEF

### Air supply to mine cut off

Yubari, Japan — Relatives of 60 men trapped underground and presumed dead in a Japanese coal mine disaster gave permission for the air supply to be cut off to prevent fire from spreading.

The decision was taken after poisonous gas, fire and dense smoke had prevented attempts to rescue the men buried 2,000ft underground after the mine, near Sapporo on Hokkaido Island, filled with methane gas on Friday. Thirty-three bodies have been recovered.

### Exile wins prize

Frankfurt.—Lev Kopelev, the exiled Soviet writer received a 25,000-mark (£6,105) peace prize awarded annually by the West German book trade. Kopelev, an authority on German literature, was stripped of Soviet citizenship in January.

### Floods kill 1,358

Peking.—Chinese authorities have adjusted the casualty figures from the floods which swept the south-western province of Sichuan this summer to 1,358 dead and 14,509 injured. The cost of the damage has been put at 2,500 million yuan (about £762m).

### Colombian quake

Cucuta, Colombia.—A strong earthquake shook this city and a large part of the Colombia-Venezuela border area, killing at least four people and injuring more than 60, police said. The tremor measured seven on the 12-point Mercalli scale.

## Pretoria takes initiative to reassure Windhoek

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, Oct 18

Talks which appear to be a significant move in the renewed effort to achieve an internationally acceptable settlement in Namibia (South-West Africa) began in Windhoek tomorrow.

Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, and General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, have arrived in the city for what are officially described as discussions with the leaders of the internal "democratic parties" to bring them up to date on the present state of negotiations.

Normally, the Namibian leaders have to go to Cape Town or Pretoria to hear what is going on.

Dr Danie Hough, the Administrator General, Mr Dirk Mudge, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and leader of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) and Mr Keesie Pretorius, leader of the National Party in Namibia, flew to Cape Town last month for a briefing before

talks began in Zurich between a South African delegation and Dr Chester Crocker, the United States Assistant Secretary of State in charge of African affairs.

As a result of the Zurich talks, representatives of the Western contact group — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada — are due in Cape Town on October 28.

Mr R. F. Botha has signalled conditional acceptance to the group of an American plan for settlement based on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 (which stipulates a supervised ceasefire and elections), but with significant amendments.

It appears that the mission to Windhoek this weekend is purely designed to assure the internal political leaders that they are not being sold out. It is also designed to forestall attempts by South African right-wing extremists to rally resistance to a settlement.

## Seventh game in world chess ends in draw

Merano, Oct 18.—Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, offered a draw on move 31 of the seventh game of the world chess championship match yesterday. It was promptly accepted by Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world champion.

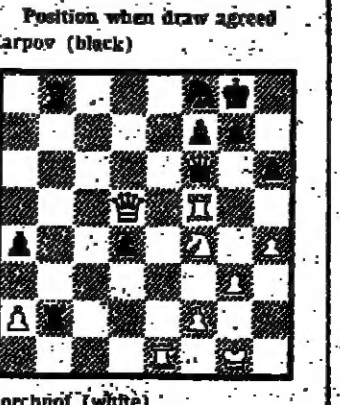
Korchnoi, who played white, was trailing Karpov 3-3. The first player to win six games takes the title. Draws do not count.

It was the third draw of the championship, which began on October 1. Korchnoi scored his first win last Friday.

Karpov changed his dress from a dark grey suit with a red tie to a white-striped dark blue outfit and a tie with white and red stripes.

The eighth game begins tomorrow.

Seventh game  
White Korchnoi, Black Karpov  
1 P-Q4 P-K3  
2 K-QB3 P-Q4  
3 P-Q4 P-K3  
4 K-Q1 P-K3  
5 B-K2 P-K3  
6 N-B1 P-K3  
7 P-P3 P-K3  
8 P-P3 P-K3  
9 B-B2 P-K3  
10 B-B2 P-K3  
11 P-K3 P-K3  
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## Presidents celebrate the coup de Grasse

From Nicholas Ashford Yorktown, Virginia, Oct 18

To the sound of rolling drums and squealing fife, President Reagan and President Mitterrand of France marked 200 years of American-French accord today with the first of a series of meetings held on board of French naval vessel, appropriately named the "de Grasse".

It was the success of the French fleet under Admiral Francois de Grasse in holding the British Navy at bay which led to the American-French victory over the British at Yorktown, the bicentenary of which is being celebrated with pomp and ceremony here this weekend.

On his arrival at the Capital building in the old colonial town of Williamsburg last night, President Mitterrand emphasized the alliance which had brought the French into supporting the American revolutionaries two centuries ago.

His visit, he declared, marked "a milestone in the long friendly relationship between France and the United States, a relationship of true partners and reliable allies, a relationship that has continued since the earliest days of our republic."

Relations between the two countries have often been marked by disagreement and even war, despite these reassuring words. It was clear before the two presidents met that their discussions would deal mainly with the differences which have emerged on a range of policies.

Senior Administration officials have made it clear that President Reagan will express his disapproval of Mitterrand's decision to resume arms supplies to Libya. The French have indicated that President Mitterrand intends to pursue objectives at this week's North-South summit in Geneva, Mexico, which are certain to meet United States resistance.

President Mitterrand is a strong advocate of global negotiations, the Americans are against them. The French favour increased financial assistance to the Third World, the Americans would prefer a greater role for the private sector.

American and French officials have gone out of their way to indicate that disagreements will not be allowed to mar the accord which they hope will result from Mitterrand's first visit to the United States since his election.

President Mitterrand certainly seems delighted with the colourful reception.

From the redcoat fife and drum band which greeted his arrival last night through to tomorrow's ceremonies, when there will be a reenactment of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis's forces to the joint American-French army led by George Washington, he will constantly be reminded of the key role France played in achieving American independence.

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# Damn the expense.



## Top official claims Kabul regime has lost control

Peshawar, Oct. 18. — A former senior bureaucrat in the Afghan Government who fled from Kabul said today that the country's political, economic and administrative structure had broken down.

Mr Muhammad Yusuf Farand, who arrived in Pakistan four days ago, said that when he left Kabul a week ago there were strong rumours that President Karzai's regime might soon be replaced by another Communist administration.

Mr Farand, who was an adviser to the Finance Ministry, head of the board of control of the state-run Afghan Textile Corporation and a director of the national airline Ariana, said central control of the country had collapsed.

Ministries were able to operate with a quarter of the staff they employed before Soviet troops intervened in Afghanistan nearly two years ago because the Government controlled so little of the country that there was less work to do.

Political activity was solely in the hands of Mr Karzai's Parcham faction of the Afghan Communist Party. The Government had given up

collecting income tax and land tax and the only industrial concern given serious attention was natural gas exports to the Soviet Union.

Mr Farand said the textile trade, once the country's third-largest industry, was almost at a standstill because of the attacks by Afghan insurgents. Natural gas was the only export to thrive since Soviet troops arrived.

There is the strongest security in the country along the 60 miles of pipeline carrying the gas into the Soviet Union.

The Parcham faction, which controlled nearly all senior official posts, had become isolated from other political groups, who blamed Parcham for the deterioration in the Afghan economy.

The rival Khalo faction, which had ruled the country before the Karzai regime, was becoming increasingly bitter and there was no chance of a workable reconciliation between the factions.

People in Kabul openly said that neither the Parchamis nor the Khalis could effectively rule the country, Mr Farand said.

"There are strong rumours

that the Russians are thinking of leaving a new administration that would be led by another Communist party splinter group not connected to either the Khalis or Parchamis."

Kabul was the only part of the country where central control existed. "There is no national economy, only a Kabul economy. In the rest of the country the economy suffers from valley to valley."

Since the Government announced wider conscription a month ago, there had been mass absenteeism from ministries and factories and many excellent officials had fled to Pakistan.

Mr Farand, who is believed to be the most senior of hundreds of bureaucrats to flee to Pakistan since the tougher conscription measures were announced, said President Brezhnev and other officials in Moscow did not realize how serious the situation was in Afghanistan.

"The Russian generals in Afghanistan and vested interests like the Parchamis paint the picture better than it is. The mujahidin insurgents have brought the Russians to a stalemate." — Reuter.

## Impact of Pope from a distant country

From Peter Nicholas  
Rome, Oct. 18

Three years ago the strange name of the newly elected Pope echoed for the first time across the packed square in front of St Peter's. The momentary silence was caused less by disbelief than by sheer unfamiliarity, to the extent that one jubilant little group was heard to shout: "A Negro!"

In fact, a coloured Pope would not have been unique whereas a Pole was. Karol Wojtyla required a matter of minutes to establish his touch with the crowds. His deliberate mistake in his Italian as he made his first speech from the balcony of St Peter's, accompanied by a request for correction, was followed by his description of himself as a man "from a distant country". Now, with the inevitability offered by hindsight, that is the title of the film of his life, which opened here this week.

Certainly the spectacle has been intense. The words "Habemus Papam" ("We have a Pope") which precede the announcement of a new pontiff's name can never have been more literally true. At the time of the election a high official at the Vatican, with almost fatal insight, compared Karol Wojtyla to T S Eliot's Becket, a man who more than filled even the biggest role and so met martyrdom.

With uncanny good fortune, which the Pope himself sees to be as miraculous as St Peter's release from prison by angel, he just escaped with his life when he was shot in the same square on May 12. Now he is back after two operations and 33 days in hospital, with his official period of convalescence behind him.

Hopes are frequently expressed that he will be more relaxed now, after the sobering effect of the attempt on his life, and devote more time to putting the administrative machinery in order. And with this goes a feeling that he might, after so shattering an experience, be more inclined to greater flexibility in the modern application of some of the Church's teachings, especially in the fields of personal morality.

The most substantial change, and the field in which he may leave his deepest historical mark, is in what might broadly be called East-West relations. He has shifted the Vatican's idea of Europe to embrace the East as well as the West.



An Iraqi soldier standing guard over war prisoners captured near Shush, Iran.

## Tehran blames Saudis for clash in Medina

By Our Foreign Staff

Tehran radio said yesterday that Saudi security forces had severely injured a number of Iranian pilgrims at the Muslim holy city of Medina on Friday.

In the latest of a series of such incidents, Tehran radio alleged that Saudi security guards had hit one Iranian pilgrim and then expelled other Iranians who were chanting "God is Great" from the shrine of the prophet Muhammad.

Several Iranians were detained, but no figures for

arrests or casualties were given. Saudi Arabia said that Saudi soldiers and four Iranians had been injured in clashes in Medina earlier this month, and Tehran radio said some Iranians were arrested after further incidents last weekend.

The radio added that thousands of Iranians chanting anti-Israeli and anti-American slogans had demonstrated in Medina on Saturday to protest against the latest incident.

The Saudi authorities have complained that Iranian pilgrims have been engaging in political activity and distributing illegal propaganda.

In another incident, Ayatollah Khomeini yesterday said devils had told the London-based organization Amnesty International to go to Iran to condemn the country and smother its revolution lest it spread abroad.

Amnesty said on October 12 that it had asked the Iranian Prime Minister to receive a delegation seeking to halt executions in Iran. The organization said more than 1,800

people had been executed there since June 20. The Iranian newspaper *Eslami* said yesterday there had been 27 new executions.

Ayatollah Khomeini also called on Egyptians and Iraqis to rise up against their governments. It was the people's duty to overthrow the corrupt regimes, he said.

In a separate broadcast, Tehran radio said 39 sailors were drowned in a heavy storm, which had destroyed about 35 boats on an island in the Gulf on Saturday evening.

## The favourite to succeed Kekkonen

### Finland looks for continuity

From Our Own Correspondent

President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen has dominated Finnish politics for so long that a presidential election without him will be rather a bewildering experience for his country. For more than a quarter of a century Finns have turned to him as their statesman to guide them on their finely balanced political course.

But President Kekkonen is now 81 and very ill. His sick leave has been extended until November 10, and an official announcement of his retirement is expected within days. From that moment the campaign to pick his successor, which in practice has been in full swing for more than a month, becomes official. Elections are expected towards the end of January.

Whoever wins can be sure of two things: his country expects him to continue what is officially known as the "Kekkonen-Kekkonen Line", meaning the policy of good relations with the Soviet Union; and he will not be President for more than 12 years.

Almost all Finns agree that 26 years is too long a time for any man to be ruler of a

democracy, especially when, as in Finland, the office of President carries wide-ranging powers and gives its holder the power to dominate the country's political life. Political parties are almost unanimous in calling for a constitutional limit of two terms.

President Kekkonen was re-elected for so long because it took him virtually a generation to convince all shades of political opinion that his policies towards the Soviet Union, deeply controversial 25 years ago, were the right ones for his country.

Both the Russians and the Finns have now learned to live with each other — the process not simply one-way, as American detractors of "Finlandization" maintain — and do not expect any problem in their mutually advantageous bilateral relations, whoever succeeds President Kekkonen. For this reason the Russians have remained studiously silent as the jockeying for position among potential candidates goes on. They have given no hint of their preference, and are unlikely to do so as this would not only be seized on

by the rest of the world as proof that Finlandization amounts to open Soviet interference, but also because it would probably cause a backlash in Finland itself. Finns are looking for a man who can get on with the Russians, but there is no mood to elect "Moscow's man".

Such an epithet cannot be applied to either of the two leading candidates: Mr Mauno Koivisto, the Prime Minister and now acting President, who is almost certainly the candidate of the Social Democrats, and Mr Ahti Karjalainen, a former Prime Minister and long-serving Foreign Minister, who is expected to be the candidate of the Centre Party, from which President Kekkonen himself came.

The odds are that in the end Mr Koivisto will win. He is widely popular and presents an image of a man, above politics, an emergent figure who refuses to be bogged down in party squabbles.

[Helsinki: An opinion poll published today in the *Helsingin Sanomat* gives Mr Koivisto 60 per cent of votes while his opponents get 3 per cent each.

## Britons fail to heal rift with Malaysia

From M. G. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur, Oct. 18

British businessmen in Malaysia have been to the British High Commission here, in an effort to heal the widening breach in Anglo-Malaysian relations. But Malaysian officials have dismissed their moves as a case of too little too late.

The Malaysian Cabinet decided earlier this month to make it difficult for British firms to do business with Malaysia. Government departments, agencies and state administrations at a time when they could have expected to do well.

There have been no reasons mentioned publicly for the Government's decision but Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamed, the Prime Minister, hinted in his speech to the press club earlier this week: "If they (the British) can change the rules of the game after we have just mastered them, so can we

change the rules of our game."

This is in reference to the London Stock Exchange decision to tighten the rules and inhibit "dawn raids" soon after the successful Malaysian bid for Guthrie Corporation last month. Although Mr John Nott, the British Defence Secretary, told the Malaysians that he had ordered a review of the rules 18 months earlier when he was President of the Board of Trade, the Malaysians believe the new regulations were directed at them.

Now, the Malaysians are tightening the Companies Act to force foreign owners of Malaysian plantations to transfer them to a local subsidiary that would have to be restructured to be in line with the New Economic Policy (NEP). Informed sources said the amendments would be carried through the

current session of Parliament.

Most of the companies affected are British or Singapore-owned, with the Harrisons and Crosfield group the most prominent. Other firms include the French Socfin group.

According to the Malaysian argument, the worsening relations between Kuala Lumpur and London are evidence of a historical link that had been taken for granted in London. The Government here has looked askance at some recent British decisions — such as raising of education fees and failure to allow the Malaysian Airline System (MAS) "adequate" landing rights at Heathrow.

The Malaysians contrast this with the "more than welcome" assistance from such countries as Korea, Japan and the United States.

## QUEEN GETS POLYNESIAN WELCOME

From Our Correspondent  
Wellington, Oct. 18

The Queen, who is suffering from a cold, relaxed today on board the royal yacht *Britannia* after it sailed the 150 miles from Auckland and anchored in the historic Bay of Islands.

She seems to have caught the cold during a meet-the-people walkabout in wintry conditions in Wellington. She appeared in rain and slush at the airport.

Polynesian welcome in Auckland yesterday. It was cold and bleak, but neither the Queen nor her Polynesian entertainers allowed the conditions to spoil the day.

The Queen emphasized the contribution Polynesian values could make to society. "In a world so full of change," she said, "it is important that your cultural heritage remains secure and rich."

# MEXICO SUMMIT — 22-23 October 1981

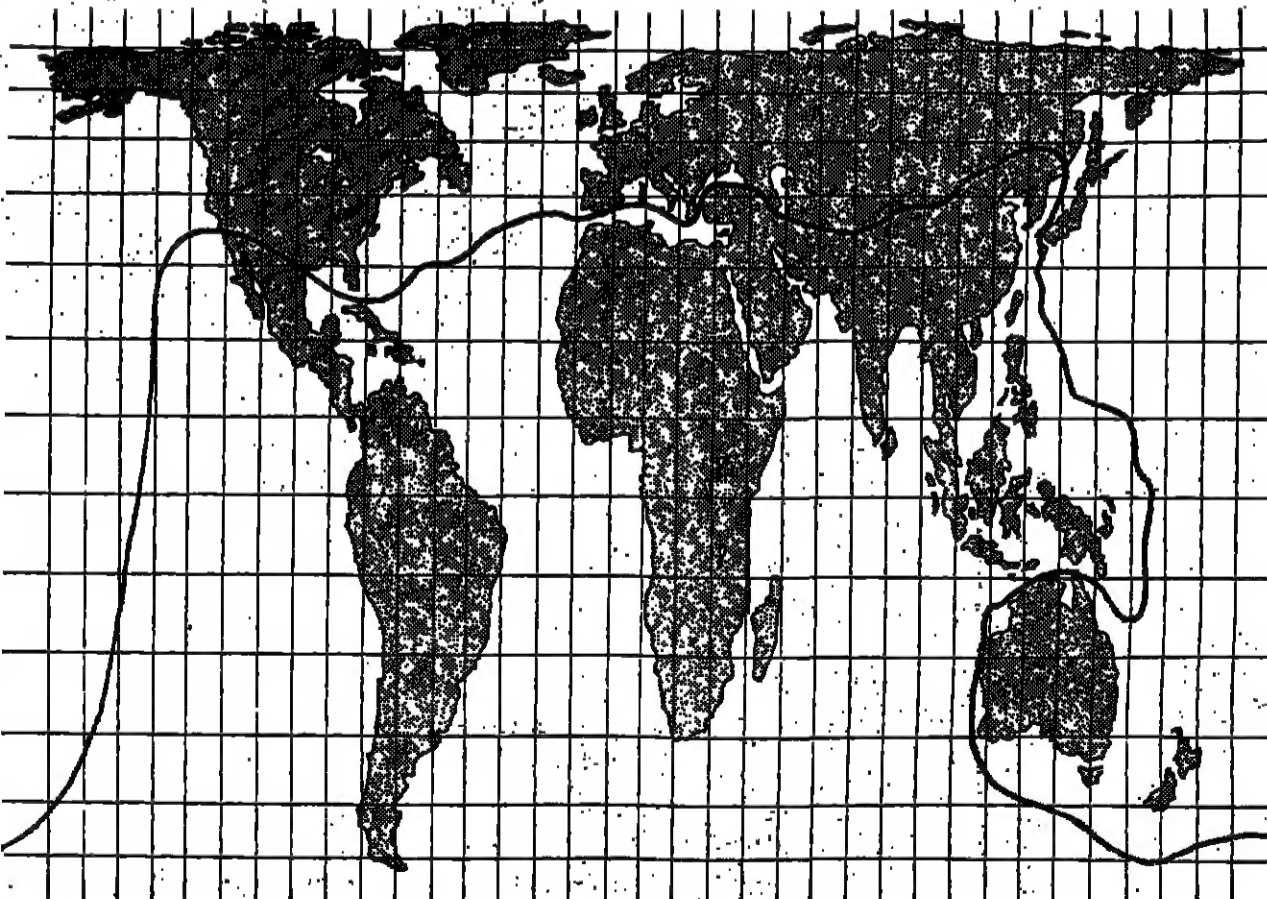
We, the undersigned, believe that the forthcoming Summit in Mexico of the leaders of 22 countries from both North and South, will be of vital importance in determining whether it is possible to create a better, fairer and more productive world economic system. We think it essential that our own government should play an active and constructive role in ensuring a successful outcome of that meeting.

We believe that the summit should pave the way to agreement on a number of important steps forward in the way the world economy operates. These steps should include:

- 1 Measures to reduce hunger and malnutrition in developing countries by the provision of more help for food production and a better system of distribution and the establishment of an effective international food security system;
- 2 Steps to promote international trade by making it easier for poor countries to sell their products in the markets of the rich, so enabling the latter to sell more of their own products in poor countries and raising economic activity and employment in both North and South alike;
- 3 Measures to increase energy supply in non-oil exporting developing countries, including the creation of appropriate international institutions for that purpose, and the vigorous promotion of energy conservation;
- 4 An increase in the flow of resources to developing countries, especially the poorest countries of all, and steps to ensure that such assistance reaches the neediest sections of the population within the receiving countries;
- 5 Improving the working of the international monetary system by the provision, through the IMF and other institutions, of greater balance of payments support for developing countries and assistance in overcoming their serious problems of debt repayment;
- 6 The strengthening of multilateral financial institutions and an increase in the resources available to them, so that they may play a larger role in reducing poverty all over the world.

We call on our government to support these objectives and in so doing to contribute to a successful outcome of this vitally important meeting.

This statement is sponsored by Cafod, Christian Aid, Oxfam and the World Development Movement



David Basnett

James Callaghan M.P.

Andrew Doig

Terry Duffy

Moss Evans

Michael Foot M.P.

Edward Heath M.P.

Roy Jenkins

Jack Jones

Geoffrey Rippon M.P.

Robert Cantuar:

Norman St. John-Stevs M.P.

David Steel M.P.

Morris West

Shirley Williams



## The Times guide to the Booker McConnell Prize. By Hunter Davies.



## Giving the poor old novel a bit of a boost

Will they sleep tonight, do you think, or will the excitement be too much for them? Winning tomorrow's £10,000 Booker Prize might not sound much compared with a littlewoods win, but as far as British fiction is concerned, there is no greater achievement.

Muriel Spark, one of seven on the shortlist, will probably be too occupied to give it a great deal of thought. She is busy looking after some building work on her flat in Rome. It is another time, another country, though she said on the phone that she was delighted to be on the shortlist. She is already established, so winning would make little difference to her life.

Doris Lessing is the only other well established writer on the list. It's hard to work out what on earth she does think about it all. She is sitting in her West Hampstead home not talking about the Booker Prize. Her publisher said there could be no interviews and she would consider personal questions about the prize as being banal, irritating and a trick. In the end, she gave a written answer (see below).

So let's move on quickly to the other five and their, in varying degrees, are in a state of intense excitement. They are all unknown to the general public, though one at least is already financially very successful, having made more money from his book than the two grand dames will probably make from theirs.

Molly Keane, who is 76 and the oldest on the list, will be coming over for the prize-giving dinner from her home in County Waterford, stunned at the very idea of being on the Booker list. She published her first book in 1928, under the name M. J. Farrell, and had some success in the 1930s with other novels and plays. It is more than 20 years since the last published book and her life has been taken up with the problems of widowhood and bringing up two daughters.

Ann Schlee, the fourth lady on the list, is if anything even more amazed, as this is her first novel, though she has written for children. She is aged 47 and

lives in Wandsworth, teaching part time at evening classes. Her novel, when it was published in March, sold so badly that her publisher won't even tell her the sales figures. "Fairly miserable," all they've said. The figure is probably about 1,000. All the same, as soon as her name appeared on the shortlist, Penguin bought the paperback rights — having previously turned it down.

Ian McEwan is probably the best known of the three men, despite his tender years, having at the age of 33 been an in-litery figure for the last five years with his taut and intense short stories. Financially, it won't now change his life, as his first novel did well in the US and enabled him to buy his own house in Clapham, but it would be invaluable prestige and introduce him to a much wider public.

Mr McEwan will probably go to sleep tonight wondering what part Professor Malcolm Bradbury, the chairman of the judges, will play in tomorrow's final meeting. He studied under Bradbury at Norwich, where he did research, and it is said that Bradbury personally dragged the McEwan book on to the list, making the list up to seven, when the norm is six. Will his friendship be a help or a hindrance?

D. M. Thomas will be in Toronto at a literary festival, a previous engagement he could not cancel, but he will be eagerly waiting the result. He has money on it for a start. He lives in Hereford and has been unemployed for the last three years. His novel got little attention when it came out in Britain in January, but has been an astounding success in America. Winning will make no difference to him financially. He has already got half a million dollars for the film rights and Barbara Srebnick is eager to make it. His hardback sales were respectable in Britain, about 5,000. But in the United States he has already sold a phenomenal 90,000.

The seventh is a young Indian gentleman, aged 34, called Salman Rushdie who lives in Kenilworth, North London. He has everything to gain by winning and the prize would

certainly change his life. His only problem is that he is the favourite, which is always worrying. The press have tipped him heavily to win, from the *Sunday Times* to *Private Eye*, and the seven short listers themselves, from their answers, make him the favourite.

The whole nation will be told, as the announcement will be carried live in TV (on Arena, BBC 2) a sign that the Booker prize has come of age. In its early years it struggled for attention.

The first winner was P. H. Newby. A small prize for remembering the title. No? It was *Something to Answer For*, and it sold 6,000 copies. The publisher, Faber and Faber, had expected it to sell about 5,000. So, the Booker did make a difference, if only just.

Last year, 11 winners later, Faber won it once again with William Golding's *Rites of Passage*. You must remember that because the prize made a lot of column inches in the short list, the other being Anthony Burgess, fought it out and both made the best seller lists. Burgess went in to a sale where he didn't win, not turning up at the dinner.

The Golding went on to sell more hardbacks than any other Booker winner in the history of the prize — 55,000. That included 15,000 to the book clubs, but even so, it was about 25,000 more than they had expected to sell.

Both novels sold tremendously well, and each was helped by the Booker publicity. None of the seven books on this year's list has got anywhere near that figure so far — the best is 10,000. It is hard to see who is going to get near the Golding in terms of sales.

The whole point of the exercise is to give the poor old novel a bit of a boost, some passing attention from a media world which in Britain at least so sadly ignores it. Tomorrow, one of the seven will be congratulated for winning, and so will the Booker people, quite rightly, for organizing the event. But let us hope that the real winner will be books.

## The betting

For the third time in four years, Ladbrokes are taking bets on the Booker Prize short list. When betting opened two weeks ago, Muriel Spark was the favourite at 7-4 followed by D. M. Thomas at 3-1. Since then, the money has poured in, well trickled in, on Rushdie. Last week the odds were:

McEwan 6-1  
Schlee 14-1  
Lessing 14-1  
Keane 9-2

Ron Pollards of Ladbrokes says it is all really a bit of fun, nothing to be compared with horse racing. They do it to help the Booker people and to have their own name seen in a different context, so it's worth their effort for the publicity. The total taken so far amounts to no more than £4,000. All the same, money stands to have to pay out £10,000 if the favourite, Rushdie, romps home. Every year so far the Ladbrokes favourite has won.

## The form

The most frequently short-listed author has been Iris Murdoch. She has appeared four times, finally winning in 1978. Thomas Kenally has been on three times, without winning. Bernard Rubens, V. S. Naipaul, David Storey and Penelope Fitzgerald each appeared twice and won once. Six others have appeared twice without so

far winning — Muriel Spark, Boris Lessing, Beryl Bainbridge, Andre Brink, William Trevor and Kingsley Amis.

Authors who have never appeared on the shortlist in all the years of the Booker include John Fowles, John le Carré, Margaret Drabble, Edna O'Brien, Angus Wilson, Malcolm Bradbury.

## The judges

The judges this year are Malcolm Bradbury, Brian Aldiss, Joan Bakewell, Samuel Hynes, Hermione Lee.

They have read and considered 74 novels written by British, Irish or Common-

wealth authors and published this year. Each publishing house is allowed to enter four novels, though more can be called in by the judges. The total number of new novels published during the period is around 4,000.

## The publishers

Since 1969, a total of 68 different books have appeared on the shortlist. By far the most successful publisher has been Jonathan Cape who has had novels on the list 11 times. They are followed by Chatto with five appearances (four of them thanks to Iris Murdoch).

Michael Joseph also has five. Next comes Macmillan, Heinemann and Duckworth (four) and Deutsch, Bodley Head, Faber, Weidenfeld,

Hutchinson, Collins and W. H. Allen, all with three.

This year, Cape have three on the shortlist — and also entered three other books. Authors who in normal years might also have been on the shortlist, Nadine Gordimer, Martin Amis and Brian Moore.

As for winning the Booker, that has been much more equally shared. Cape, Faber and Weidenfeld have all won twice.

## A plunge into my play about women alone

By Nell Dunn

About three years ago I was suffering from one of those particularly flat aimless times of life. I wanted a change after 15 years of writing books and, perhaps most drastic, my youngest child was about to leave home.

I left school at 14 and got married young. I had had virtually no education and never had a permanent job. I thought of going into business and indeed I raised £8,000 by selling a painting by Addison Grimshaw that my father had given me for my 21st birthday. But still I couldn't decide what I could do out there in the big wide world with so little experience.

If I write a play, I thought, it will be different; there will be rehearsals, a company, a joint project, lots of fun and gossip. So that's what I set about doing. For the first six months I wrote in the theatre and read plays — everything I could lay hands on. It was marvellous — my sense of oppression left me, I was completely hooked on the theatre.

The next year was good too — getting an idea and collecting material. The original idea, which seems quite pompous now, was to explore the difference between intellectual pleasure and physical or sensual pleasure and why intellectual pleasure is made to seem more respectable. So the central theme of the play was that a Turkish Bath was to be pulled down and a public library built in its place.

The other important event which was to have enormous influence on the play was that my friend, first invited me to go with her to a women's sexuality group.

Together we trooped off every week that autumn into winter through the wet cold evenings, meeting for a drink and a chat. It was an adventure for us both, and over the next year I discovered what close and open contact with a group of women could mean to me. This became absolutely central to the play.

The last six months was the hardest — the actual writing. The walls of my room were pinned with pieces of paper labelled "Violet" and then another bundle labelled "Joie". But how on earth to make these separate characters have anything to do with one another. Ah, I thought, this is what writing a play is all about — drama; and you, dear Nell, have no idea how to do it.

I gave a rough draft to my friend Jane to read (she is also one of the women in the play) and she encouraged me. There were so many issues that had come up in our women's group that we both felt strongly about — I

pressed on and finally had a draft I wanted to show around.

Dan, whom I live with, and I went to *Duet for One*, Tom Kempinski's play. I loved it, and Roger Smith who directed it, I'd known years ago when he did the screen play of *Up the Junction* so I asked him if he'd read my play, *Steaming*. He did, and better still he liked it. After some months of showing it around, Philip Hedley of the Theatre Royal, Stratford, agreed to do it, but it needed changes. For about three months Roger Smith worked with me on the script and I began to get an inkling of how you turn ordinary life into drama.

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The extraordinary sensation of acute anxiety and wild excitement that overcame me standing in the foyer at the theatre on the opening night is, I am ashamed to say, one of the highspots of my entire life. *Steaming* is now playing at The Comedy Theatre.

Women in politics

## When marriage is one long debate

By Elaine Kellett-Bowman

Women in the House of Commons have a distinct advantage over the men in the facilities we enjoy.

"Old hands" had warned me before the election that immediately I was elected I must "grab" a pair and a desk. So at the crack of dawn the day after the election, my daughter and I set off for London, and I got a "pair" and a desk — the desk I still have, in a delightful room overlooking the terrace.

I am lucky, too, in that the circumstances of our marriage prevent much of my colleagues and their wives face. I was a widow and already in the House of Commons when I married a widower, Edward Bowman — himself a highly experienced politician, who had fought a Westminster seat, and been prominent in local government — so we knew exactly what we were letting ourselves in for.

Since then, our lives have dovetailed even more as we were both elected in 1979 to the European Parliament for neighbouring seats in the North West.

The children all grew up in politics, though we have been careful not to thrust our party views down their throats, which I have noticed in other political families often sends the children in a contrary direction.

We have very little time to entertain outside politics but since we both love our jobs, and like our colleagues, this doesn't matter much.

Although I came from a non-political family, I decided at the age of five, having met our local MP and being a fan of Anthony Eden, that when I grew up I would represent either the place where I was born, the Fylde Coast or our county town. That dream was nourished by going to one of the few girls schools which taught politics and economics seriously.

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My father used to say "if you do not like the way the game is played, get in and kick", so I decided that there was nothing for it but to get to Westminster. In 1955 I stood against Sydney Silverman in Nelson and Colne and won Lancaster in 1970.

If I had to advise anyone whether to go into politics, I should say: "Not unless you want to go passionately that nothing else would satisfy you. Having got there, you will never be bored".

The author is Conservative MP for Lancaster and MEP for Cumbria.

## The seven finalists: on the competition, on the prize-money and on each other



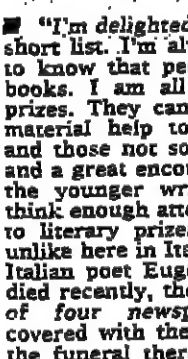
**Muriel Spark.** Born Edinburgh, lives Rome, has published 16 novels since 1957. "Loitering with Intent" (Bodley Head), about a lady writer in London who is hired to help some eccentric people of minor eminence write their autobiographies. Entertaining, full of witty Sparkisms. Published in May. So far sold 10,000 out of first print of 15,000.



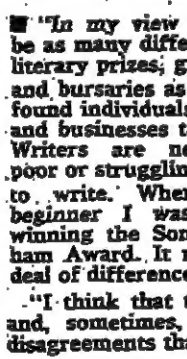
**Doris Lessing.** Born Persia 1919, brought up Rhodesia, lives West Hamstead, London. First book 1950, has published more than 20 since. *The Sirian Experiments* (Cape), third in a series of intellectual space fiction, experimental astringent, perseverance needed but a good story lurks behind the galactic conflict. Published in February. So far sold 7,000.



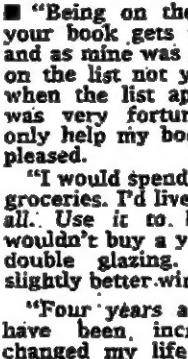
**Ian McEwan.** Born Aldershot, 1948, lives Clapham, London. First book of short stories 1975. *The Comfort of Strangers* (Cape), his second novel, set in Venice where a young couple do young couple things till something nasty happens. Slim but intense, tautly written. Just published (October 8); 3,000 printed.



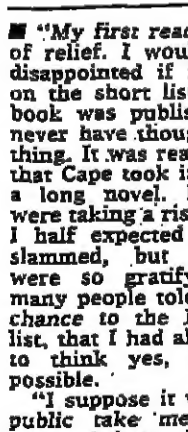
"I'm delighted to be on the short list. I'm always pleased to know that people like my books. I haven't had any literary prizes. They can be of great material help to a beginner and those not so well known and a great encouragement to the younger writer. I don't think enough attention is paid to literary prizes in Britain, unlike here in Italy. When the Italian poet Eugenio Montale died recently, the front pages of four newspapers were covered with the news. As for the funeral there were more photographs, showing the large crowds."



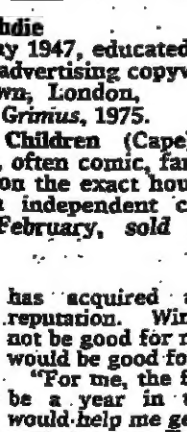
"In my view there should be as many different kinds of literary prizes; grants, awards and bursaries as there can be found individuals, institutions and businesses to fund them. Writers are nearly always poor or struggling to buy time to write. When I was a beginner I was helped by winning the Somerset Maugham Award. It made a great deal of difference to me."



"Being on the list means your book gets talked about and as mine was the only one on the list not yet published when the list appeared, that was very fortunate. It can only help my book. I'm very pleased."



"My first reaction was one of relief. I would have been disappointed if it hadn't got on the short list. Before the book was published I would never have thought of such a thing. It was really a surprise that Cape took it, I think, as a long novel. I think they were taking a risk to accept it. I half expected it would be slammed, but the reviews were so gratifying and so many people told me it had a chance to be the Booker short list, that I allowed myself to think yes, it might be possible."



"I think that the problems and, sometimes, unfortunate disagreements that some literary prizes attract is when there are too few of them, or when one becomes disproportionately influential. A writer winning a prize is seldom all that much better than the others in the running, and everyone feels this. If there were a lot of prizes instead of a few, it would help to get rid of what is always a faint flavour of silliness about the business."



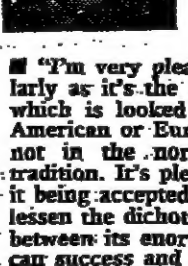
"I would spend the price on groceries. I'd live on it, that's all. Use it to buy time. I wouldn't buy a yacht or even double glazing. Perhaps a slightly better wine."



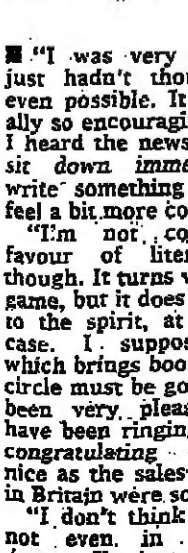
"I suppose it will make the public take me fractionally more serious, but it won't change the way I write. It's been a very good year for me. This is the last piece, getting on the short list, the final recognition. I'm all for literary prizes, for anything that makes books into news, however small scale. I think the Booker is very important. In the last couple of years it



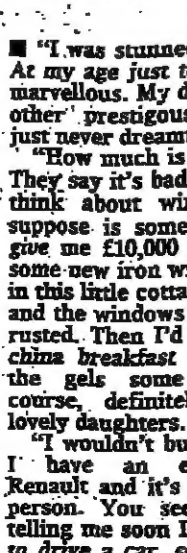
has acquired an excellent reputation. Winning might not be good for my soul but it would be good for my ego."



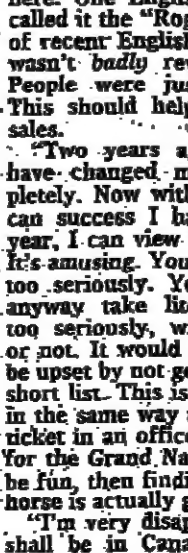
"I'm very pleased, particularly as it's the sort of book which is looked upon as an American or European novel, not in the normal English tradition. It's pleasing to feel it being accepted here. I've felt between its enormous American success and its reception here. One English critic has called it 'the Roger Casement of recent English fiction'. It wasn't badly reviewed here. People were just confused. This should help its British sales."



"I was very surprised. I just hadn't thought it was even possible. It was personally so encouraging that when I heard the news I wanted to sit down immediately and write something good. I do feel a bit more confident."



"It won't make any difference to my writing. I would have carried on writing, for better or worse, whatever the prize. It will be just as difficult to write as it ever was. Even when I was writing plays and one was a big success the next one was just as hard to write."



"I haven't read any of the others. I haven't the money or time to buy new books. They're so frightfully expensive. I have met Muriel Spark and I've read some of her previous ones. I should think the Indian will win. They're awfully fond of Anglo-Indian books in London, so I'm told. He sounds a jolly good bet. I won't win, of course. I've never won anything in my life."



# The new party battle Tony Benn must fight

by Christopher Price

Today Labour Party democracy returns to centre stage with preparations for the annual Shadow Cabinet election. Whether Brighton's healing air has wafted up to Westminster has yet to be seen.

The outcome will depend on the behaviour of everyone concerned — not just Tony Benn, but also Michael Foot, Denis Healey and the organizers of all those factions which have crystallized within the Parliamentary Labour Party in recent years — Solidarity, Manifesto, Labour First, Tribune (with its Bennite and Silkinite sub-groups), and for all I know a number of others which have not yet gone public.

The object of the exercise must be to unite under Mr Foot — a particularly important exercise when the Opposition sees Government policies crumbling and the possibility of Conservative parliamentary solidarity going down the drain.

Without anyone fully realizing it, democracy in the PLP has been slowly advancing over the last 12 months, thanks largely to the initiative of those new MPs, most of whom supported Mr Benn in the leadership election, who were shocked at the unbusinesslike way the PLP seemed to conduct itself.

If the formal resolution goes through, the new Shadow Cabinet will have 16, not 12, places, and will form the greater part of the real Cabinet if Labour wins

the next general election. The argument about democracy in the party has rubbed off on the PLP.

Where, however, the PLP was just left-wing enough to elect Mr Foot as its leader, it tends to elect a right-wing Shadow Cabinet. This, I suspect, is partly because the sitting tenants from the previous government have a head start over everyone else (Neil Kinnock is the only non-ex-minister to break in since 1979). It is also partly because of the "list" system, whereby the various groups within the PLP put up lists, and the biggest one usually wins.

Mr Benn, in fact, did not get elected to the Shadow Cabinet last year; he got in only when Bill Rodgers resigned before his election. So the question this year is whether Mr Benn will stand and if he does, whether he will be elected.

I believe he should stand — whether or not at the head of a Bennite "list". If he does, I suspect he will be elected. Unlike elections in the party at large, PLP ballots are secret, and this enables all sorts of manoeuvres to take place.

There are indications that last year Mr Benn received votes from MPs now in the Social Democratic Party who wanted to discredit the PLP as extreme left. There are also indications that this time he might lose votes from the far left who want to portray the PLP as elitist to the party at large.

The first precondition of

uniting under Mr Foot is for the broad mass of MPs to respond to the overwhelming feeling of the party grassroots and elect Mr Benn to the Shadow Cabinet — whatever they might think of him or how they voted in the deputy leadership election. Keeping him out of the Shadow Cabinet would be seen by the party at large as a snub not just to Mr Benn but also to thousands of party workers up and down Britain.

But in this exercise, Mr Benn must cooperate, too. He has been quoted as saying that if he is elected to the Shadow Cabinet he will expect to be able to speak freely about non-departmental issues. I suspect it is not just that he wants to act as a guardian of conference policy. He also wants the right to make unorthodox suggestions — such as selling *The Times* to the BBC or the Irish problem to the United Nations.

I see no reason why he should not. The Shadow Cabinet is not the Cabinet — though all the unwritten Cabinet conventions seem to have been grafted on by Labour leaders from Clement Attlee onward. The whole point about unwritten rules is that you can defy them with impunity — so long as you do so in a moderate and comradely spirit.

It would be absurd for Mr Benn to expect a formal dispensation from Mr Foot to speak freely; he would not get it. But since Mr Foot

buried the hatchet at Brighton, there is much to be said for Mr Benn softening his hard line, taking his democratic chance in the PLP election and, if he gets it, cooperating reasonably with his Shadow Cabinet comrades.

For he has now won most of his objectives. Shadow ministers do take far more notice of policy as decided at conference than ever they used to.

Though Mr Benn lost the deputy leadership election, the effect of the campaign over the past few years has been to shift the right of the Labour Party quite a long way to the left and the left a little to the right.

Individuals who, as Labour ministers only a few years ago, were carrying out policies founded on a nuclear NATO, a commitment to the EEC and a disavowal of import controls, have now come round. That is a considerable achievement.



Mr Benn: will he soften his hard line?

Simultaneously, the campaign has ended up in pushing younger left-wing MPs, such as Neil Kinnock, marginally to the responsible right.

Moreover, the whole campaign for democracy has succeeded to the point that now even the SDP believe in reselection of MPs — the very issue which originally started alienating them from the Labour Party. Having shifted the whole suite of Labour policy furniture from the right-hand side of the room into the centre, there is now a case for a period of comradely cooperation with fellow Labour MPs.

But that could happen only if the party leadership recognizes that there has been a major shift in policy and that, as good democrats, they should now work for those policies, even if they prove contrary to those they were pursuing in office.

In a curious way, what emerges from the consultations and polls carried out for the deputy leadership election is that most Labour voters want Mr Healey to carry out Mr Benn's policies. The ballot by the Natopia print union was particularly interesting — a substantial vote for unilateral disarmament on the one hand and for Mr Healey as deputy on the other.

Whether the PLP can coalesce over the coming months will depend on the extent to which former ministers can accept their new role within a wider Labour Party under a leader and deputy elected by the whole Labour movement.

Now that the SDP, who do believe in nuclear weapons, EEC membership and orthodox economics, have finally departed, a new unity within the PLP should be capable of achievement. The author is Labour MP for Lewisham West.

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## Should we give back these treasures?

The Elgin Marbles, the monuments of Egypt, the Koh-i-Noor diamond, the Benin Bronzes and many other expressions of past civilizations now lie in western museums. Are our museums therefore the preservers of the culture of mankind or the receivers of stolen property? An increasingly vocal lobby in those countries which have lost their art treasures are demanding their return, claiming they were looted by imperialists.

Although few British visitors to museums and historical sites overseas can have avoided being harangued about the theft of art treasures by their ancestors, there have been only two official requests to Britain for the return of such objects, by Sri Lanka and Nigeria.

In 1980 Sri Lanka lodged a list with Unesco of about 100 items which were taken between 1505 and 1948 and which are now in 21 museums in Europe and the United States. Of these, 35, ranging from a small statue to gold leaf manuscripts, are in British collections. The Government has not yet replied to the request.

In 1977 the Nigerians asked to borrow the fifteenth century Benin ivory mask for an art festival. The mask was the festival's symbol, but the British Museum refused to lend it because it was too fragile to travel. The Nigerians were furious.

No one has yet asked for the Elgin Marbles, the Koh-i-Noor or the Benin Bronzes but in many poor countries there is a simmering resentment that the final tally of political independence leaves some of their historic treasures in the museums of their former masters.

The battle lines are similar to those of the North-South dialogue. As with the arguments about aid and trade, the poor countries present broad moral demands: they say that cultural property is as important to their identity and nationhood as political independence. In particular they seek objects from their pre-colonial past, a past elevated in the independence struggle by national leaders. The countries in possession party with technical and legal points.

In some of these countries there are almost no artefacts left. According to a Unesco report, Saudi Arabia has lost "practically all objects of cultural or historical significance".

The argument becomes more heated when it comes to the history of how the objects were first taken. Those who demand their restitution say they were looted and stolen. The Benin Bronzes for example were taken in 1897 by a British naval expedition punishing the King of Benin for not coming to a meeting the British had called. The Nigerians point out that at the time the King was conducting the tribe's most important

Richard Dowden

## Colonel Gaddafi's bit of mischief in Sudan

President Sadat was killed by Egyptians, with weapons belonging to his own government. It should not be necessary to recall the fact, but some of the reactions to his death give the impression that it may have been overlooked. The United States administration, in particular, has tried to cope with the crisis by announcing arms deliveries to both Egypt and Sudan.

There is no mystery about the enemy against whom these arms are intended to be used. Whether or not Colonel Gaddafi had any part in Sadat's death (there is no evidence that he had, but clearly he would have liked it), the murder is seen in Washington as fitting all too neatly into a pattern of Libyan subversion and expansion directed against all of the West throughout northern and equatorial Africa.

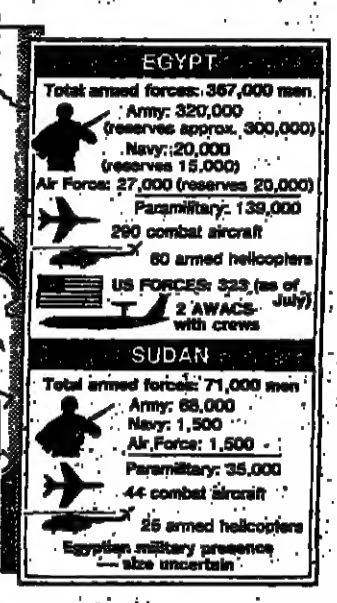
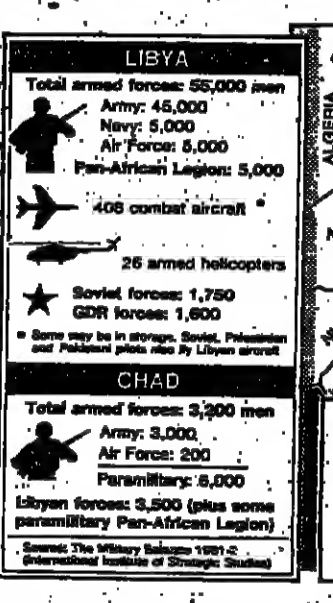
Sudan is seen as the immediate target of Libyan aggression, but Egypt is the real prize that the Colonel is after. Both countries need to be in a position to defend themselves against his designs. So far, it is hard to disagree with the American analysis. Colonel Gaddafi has never made any secret of his desire to unite Egypt with Libya. It is a desire that makes sense economically, since Libya has plenty of oil (and therefore money) but too few people while Egypt's problem is exactly the reverse. Sadat himself was tempted by the scheme in the early 1970s, in the days when Colonel Gaddafi was passionately anti-communist. But by 1973, when it became clear that the Colonel wanted to involve Egypt in his "people's revolution", Sadat's enthusiasm for union had vanished.



After that, Sadat repeatedly described the Colonel as a "madman". In the summer of 1977 there was actual fighting on the border. Sadat apparently hoped that a military defeat would bring about Gaddafi's fall from power, but if anything his domestic power base was strengthened by a reflex of national solidarity.

Gaddafi's friendship with President Nimeiry of Sudan also turned to bitter hostility as the former moved closer to alliance with the Soviet Union while the latter became strongly pro-western. From the mid-1970s onwards Gaddafi bought big quantities of Soviet arms, using dollars earned from the sale of oil at the vastly increased post-1973 prices.

Ironically, much the biggest customer for Libyan oil was and is the United States, so that these Soviet arms pur-



chases were made with American money. Hence President Nimeiry's pointed suggestion last year that if Western countries really wanted to do something about the trouble some Colonel they should boycott Libyan oil.

Gaddafi has not made any secret of his support for "liberation movements" in an improbable variety of countries (from the Philippines to the South). To many such movements he has provided weapons and training. African leaders especially have been alarmed by his formation of a 5,000 man "Pan-African Legion", composed of political exiles from black African states.

He has been credited with schemes to extend the influence of Islam (of which he has his own highly idiosyncratic interpretation) in Africa by military force, and also to form a pan-Saharan state

stretching across to the Atlantic and including territory from up to a dozen existing states. Some see him as the cat's paw of Soviet designs in Africa, while others believe he is essentially uncontrollable by Moscow or anyone else.

So far, however, the only visible direct application of Colonel Gaddafi's military power has been in Chad, Libya's immediate neighbour to the south. His long support for guerrilla movements based in Chad's Muslim north, against a succession of French-backed regimes whose leaders came from the Christian and animist south, culminated last December in direct Libyan intervention to end the vicious war between two of the victorious northern leaders.

With Libyan support President Goukoul secured full control of the capital and most of the

country while his rival (and erstwhile defence minister), Mr Hissene Habre, was driven into exile in Sudan. At the same time Gaddafi incoherently proclaimed a "merger" between Libya and Chad. But the application of this proposal, which was unanimously condemned both inside and outside Chad, has since been indefinitely postponed.

The recent military clashes between Libya and Sudan arise from the continued guerrilla warfare carried on by Mr Habre, with Sudanese support, against the Libyan-backed Government of Chad. Libyan aircraft, based in Chad, have been bombing Mr Habre's bases in Sudanese territory.

As always happens in such cases, Sudanese villagers have suffered as well as Chadian civilians. Sudan's immediate need, therefore, is

for effective anti-aircraft weapons, and this is an important part of the American aid package. But an invasion of Sudanese territory by Libyan ground troops remains highly unlikely.

Internal mischief-making is indeed much more Gaddafi's line. Despite his large arsenal of Soviet weapons — especially aircraft, but including 12 SS-12 Scaleboard long-range ground-to-air missiles — he does not constitute a major military power. In an all-out conventional war with the much stronger Egyptian armed forces he would stand little chance provided there was a will to fight on the Egyptian side. Egypt's armed forces are, admittedly, in need of re-equipment.

But the problems of both Egypt and Sudan are much more internal than external and economic — than military. Sudan, especially, often cited as the potential "breadbasket of the Arab world" but at present unable to feed itself would be a strong candidate for a massive western economic aid package. (The combination of economic and political imperatives make it comparable to Poland.)

The emphasis on American military aid, and still more on American military "presence", as symbolized by the "Bright Star" manoeuvres planned for next month, may not be the best response to threats which are primarily political in effect could be to identify the leaders of the countries concerned more closely with the United States, to isolate them further from their fellow Arabs, and so to increase their unpopularity among their own people.

Edward Mortimer

## The recession takes a bite out of Frankfurt

The Frankfurt Book Fair, by all accounts, is this year turning out to be a bit like a German joke: no laughing matter, but scarcely extravagant. Charles Clark, of Hutchinson, has set something of a record for the advance world rights on Frederick Forsyth's new collection of short stories — "well over £300,000" — but those seven-figure paperback advances seem a thing of the past.

This colder climate seems to have particularly affected the social side of the fair. For instance, Bertelsmann, who feed if not 5,000 then at least 500 top publishers at the Frankfurt parties, put a complete block on garbages. There was even a security guard in the kitchens, a popular way in for the uninvited last year.

Not even *Readers' Digest* is immune. They usually give the smartest party, with the best food, but this year they asked no Americans at all because of the large numbers over-running the fair and the "need to draw the line somewhere".

The most exclusive party of the fair is the lunch held each year for about 60 people at the Deutsche Bank and hosted by German super-publisher Herr von Holtzbrink. Lord Weidenfeld made a short, sharp, witty speech ("for once", a rival muttered after the meal's eggs. But Andre Deutsch was not invited this year — for the first time — because he had

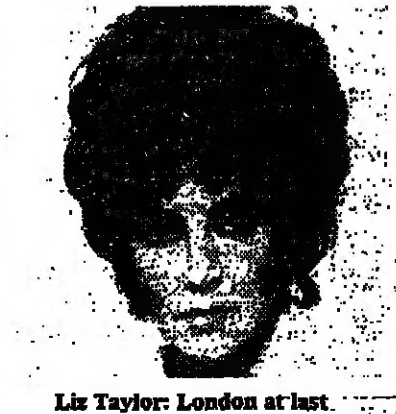
published Tom Bower's *Blind Eye to Murder*, which says some rude things about Dr Hermann Josef Abs, a former president of Deutsche Bank.

In truth, I have left out one hot property: *The Rubie Magic Snake Book*. However, the thought of another craze to follow that cube is so appalling that I can't bring myself to add to the publicity.

### Tanks aplenty

Elizabeth Taylor has confounded the cynics with but a modest demand for change to her dressing room at the Victoria Palace, where she will make her London stage debut next year in the revival of Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes*. Miss Taylor, who is supposed to sweep through dressing rooms like a tornado demanding wholesale refurbishment, has asked simply for an aquarium to relax in front of, before and after her three-hour performance on stage.

Already, impresario Louis Ben-



Liz Taylor: London at last

## THE TIMES DIARY

Barrister Desmond de Silva probably knows more about the English bar. So it is no surprise to find him flying to Gambia this week to take part in the trial of those alleged to have led the attempted coup while the President, Sir Dawda Jawara, was in London for the royal wedding. What is surprising is that De Silva will lead the prosecution of the rebels, who were quickly overpowered after the intervention of Senegalese troops. In effect, he will be acting as Attorney General.

In addition, so concerned is the Gambian government to have justice seen to be done, that judges from three Commonwealth countries — Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Jamaica — have been invited to preside. This is believed to be the first time any country has used foreigners in this way.

As well as being no stranger to treason trials, De Silva is an old Africa hand. When Dingle Foot was head of his chambers, he defended Kenyatta, Enghere and Chief Awolowo, and De Silva himself led the defence in Sierra Leone's first treason trial in 1969 and did the same in Tanzania two years later.

Defending on these occasions can be unpleasant. In Sierra Leone he was thrown into jail on a trumped-up charge of smuggling brandy to one of his clients, and he was expelled from Tanzania half-way through. He thinks that, as prosecutor, he should have less trouble — "unless there's another coup while the trial is on".

machinations, mass defections by Labour councillors have given the SDP 23 seats, and the Tories have two. Which means that the ruling Labour group needs to lose only one of its remaining 26 seats to lose its overall majority. Now read on.

Mark Van de Weyer, one of the remaining Labour councillors, has decided he can no longer stay in the party. Believing that "some of the stuff going forward for the manifesto for the borough elections next May is horrific", he has not paid his subscription this year or attended party meetings for six months.

At the same time Gaddafi incoherently proclaimed a "merger" between Libya and Chad. But the application of this proposal, which was unanimously condemned both inside and outside Chad, has since been indefinitely postponed.

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Edward Mortimer

Next week, episode 34: The Two Tories, a Drip and Dry weep.

### Reside in peace

Anyone want to live in a cemetery? Richmond, upon Thames council is inviting bids for a disused chapel in Richmond cemetery. The Victorian building, which needs renovation, is close to main services and could be converted into a house or, perhaps more conveniently, a studio. A natural for still life?

### Starkly illegal

When the exclusive, all-male Bohemian Club, whose members include President Reagan, Vice President Bush, Richard Nixon and many of America's top business men, argued against employing women they presented a rather novel point of view. They noted that many members of the secretive, 108-year-old club enjoy

walking the spacious grounds outside San Francisco naked. To have women around would be embarrassing.

But the argument did not hold water with California's Fair Employment Commission which, in a 75-page ruling, has agreed that the club discriminates illegally against women who want to work for it. Ordering the club to stop its "no women" policy, it noted, apparently without a smile: "The fact that members may prefer to go unclothed is not a matter of constitutional import. The right of privacy does not allow club members to expose themselves at the expense of equal employment opportunity."

### Dress sense?

I hear that the entrepreneurial skills of Philip Green, purveyor of cut-price high fashion in the Bond Street area, has led to an extraordinary buy-back mission from representatives of Giorgio Armani, the Italian fashion house. Green, who manages Dior at Yves St Laurent and Dior at discounts of up to 50 per cent, recently bought 3,000 Armani garments from an anonymous dealer at a knock-down price. This so incensed Brown's of South Molton Street, "exclusive" stockists of Armani, that the Italian company is now arranging to buy the clothes back from Green at retail prices.

The total price, says Green, owner of Bond Street Edit and Fort One Conduit Street, as well as the Joan Collins Jeans Co, is in "six figures". It represents a colossal profit which he is not prepared to define.

### Blind alley

At the height of Moshe Dayan's popularity, immediately after the Six Day War, one of his supporters in his bid for power noted that the Hebrew word for blind men (*lirin*) sounds like the collective noun for Hebrews. He suggested that political capital could be made from the epigram "In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king". Sadly for Dayan, voters were not amused.

### Quiz answers

- Fourteen economist, the Clare Group, called on the Government to reflate the economy with a £5,000m package of expenditure.
- Woolworth's announced its take-over of the Dodge City chain of do-it-yourself stores.
- Tests showed that giant panda Ching-Ching is not pregnant after all.
- Princess Anne was installed as Chancellor of Liverpool University.
- Soil infected with cancer spores allegedly from the island of Grintland was found at Porton Down.
- Mrs Nancy Reagan's purchase of more than £200,000 worth of china for the White House.
- The report of the independent tribunal on the July riots in Manchester praised Chief Constable James Anderson.
- The GIC leader, Mr Ken Livingstone, claimed that the motives of IRA terrorists were misunderstood.
- The British women's team won eight medals at the British open championships.
- Robert Carter, son of the P.O. D'Oyly Carte, son of the Gilbert and Sullivan producer.
- According to the Study Commission on the Family, one in five children in the country is a product of divorce.
- Civil Service union leaders claim that smuggling is increasing because of cuts in customs staff.

Peter Watson





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## EXIT MR KANIA

Poland now enters a new phase of profound uncertainty under the leadership of General Jaruzelski, who is, for the moment, in the remarkable position of being simultaneously First Secretary of the ruling party, Prime Minister and Defence Minister. Triple responsibility of this sort is quite new in the communist world, but then so is the situation in Poland, where a genuine workers' revolution has risen up against an ostensibly Marxist-Leninist regime which cannot, for geopolitical reasons, be removed. General Jaruzelski now has the unenviable task of trying to cope with this turbulent encounter between the irresistible force of popular discontent and the immovable object of party rule.

Will he do any better than Mr Kania? The sad fact is that Mr Kania failed, in spite of what looked like reasonably sincere attempts to come to terms with the pressure for renewal. At first his regime seemed to hope that it could gradually absorb Solidarity into the system by wooing its leaders with favours and allowing party members to join. Then after General Jaruzelski became Prime Minister in February, there was a period of relative peace during which there were hopes of a genuinely negotiated relationship with Solidarity. Meanwhile, however, instead of the party taking over Solidarity it began to seem as if Solidarity was

taking over the party. Pressure for renewal began to press up through the party ranks. This worried the Soviet Union more than the existence of Solidarity, and in June it tried to oust both Mr Kania and General Jaruzelski by attacking them directly in a stiff letter to the Polish Central Committee.

At that time Mr Kania, supported by General Jaruzelski and the army, as well as the new district party leaders, was still strong enough to survive. By the time the special party congress came along in July he was slightly weaker, and could not get himself the quick and dramatic reelection he had hoped for. He still managed to survive, but he had missed the chance to push through a clear and decisive programme of renewal, which might have regained public confidence and made possible a constructive relationship with Solidarity. The party emerged from the congress as divided as ever, and with many inexperienced newcomers promoted to the Central Committee. The impression remained that the party would move only when pushed by Solidarity, and would try to regain lost ground whenever it got the chance.

This left Solidarity carrying the full load of representing public discontent, a load it was still too inchoate to manage. Its own local organizations,

unrestrained by the wider view of the national interest which some of the senior leaders have, were generating more and more radical demands, some of which were endorsed at Solidarity's recent congress. In the final phase of Mr Kania's leadership the party seemed to be increasingly desperate as it tried to negotiate with Solidarity at the same time as attacking it and declaring that party members should leave it, thereby making consensus even more difficult.

The choice of General Jaruzelski suggests that the party is not looking for a basic change of political line. It did not choose one of Mr Kania's many critics. Instead it chose a man who has been closely allied with Mr Kania, and who shared Moscow's disapproval in June. He is a known patriot who has been unwilling to use the army against Polish workers. He has also spoken out strongly for reforms based on dialogue and reconciliation. Yet he is known to have become increasingly desperate about the declining economic and political situation. In his first moves, therefore, he seems to be trying to combine the firm hand of authority with a promise of continuing dialogue. He may succeed if people come to believe that the attempt at dialogue is genuine, and if Solidarity responds. If not, the firm hand could provoke even worse trouble.

## LISTEN TO THE JUDGES

It has long been a cynical but well-founded legal principle that if, by your negligence, you injure another, it is better for your victim to die than for him to live on with serious permanent disabilities. The damages you would have to pay would be far lower. The advances in medical techniques for saving, and sustaining, life have created a new and growing class of accident victims who, perhaps only twenty years ago, would have died, or lived only a short while, but whose bodies are now being kept alive, even though their minds have ceased to function properly. That has, in turn, created new legal problems. How are damages for such victims to be assessed? Lord Denning's call last week for legislative intervention to reform the law deserves urgent attention. He is not the first judge to have pleaded for guidance from Parliament. For what has become apparent is that the existing law on the assessment of damages is no longer appropriate for many kinds of cases particularly, though not exclusively, where very severe injuries are involved.

James Croke's case before the Court of Appeal last week raised three important issues. First, how much should be awarded to a plaintiff who is not aware of his condition, and in any event cannot use or enjoy the damages the court gives him for pain and suffering and "loss of amenities"? It has been argued for instance that, contrary to the existing practice, the fact that the victim is being spared the mental anguish of being conscious of his disabilities should be a factor in reducing

the amount of damages to which he is entitled on the grounds that he feels no physical pain and no unhappiness with his state. However, this would obviously overlook the substantial sums that would have to be paid to others for his upkeep and to make his existence as comfortable as possible.

Secondly, how much should be awarded under the category of "loss of earnings"? Lord Denning found it absurd that the boy, irreversibly brain-damaged at the age of two but with a life expectancy of forty, should be entitled under the law to a substantial sum to compensate him for a fictional future income which he would not earn because he would be incapable of working. It would anyway be impossible, even with actuarial assistance, to put any realistic figure on such a notional loss. The difficulties of the present approach are lessened, though not entirely removed, where the victim had in fact been working. Recent cases have also raised the issue of the "lost years": where the injury has reduced the victim's life expectancy. Should he then be compensated for loss of earnings for the years which he would not live? Earlier this year the House of Lords actually decided, albeit reluctantly, that even where the victim had in fact died, his estate could still claim damages for loss of earnings in the period when he might otherwise have been alive.

Thirdly, the possibility of duplication or overlapping of damages, and therefore over-compensation, was raised. By awarding large sums for cost

of care, loss of amenities, and loss of earnings, was not the court doubly-compensating the victim? The plaintiff would be getting, under the various heads of damages, everything that he would need for his upkeep for the rest of his life. The ordinary person would have to deduct from his earnings all the expenses of caring for himself. No such deduction is made in a damages claim. Perhaps damages should be assessed not merely by adding up the various heads of claim but by looking at the circumstances as a whole and, if necessary, awarding more or less than the sum of the parts.

Should an assessment of damages also be subjected to periodic review? Knowledge of the future being denied to mankind, much of the award as to is attributed to future loss and suffering — in many cases the major part of the award — will almost surely be wrong. There is really only one certainty: the future will prove the award to be either too high or too low. Lord Scarman admits. Allowing the parties to the original litigation to come back for a reassessment, in the light of supervening circumstances, is one way of reducing the element of lottery that our law on damages inescapably contains.

All these issues were canvassed thoroughly in the Pearson Report on Civil Liability, which the Government has, inexcusably and to its great discredit, ignored. Now the judges have thrown their weight behind comprehensive reform. It is surely time for the Government to take notice.

public relations excesses of politics, has not yet taken seriously the claim that the SDP-Liberal Alliance could well win the next general election outright and form a government. Yet, with a Government and Opposition running neck and neck in unpopularity, only a fool would dismiss from serious calculation and possibility that the Alliance may hold the balance of power. As half the Cabinet and half the 1922 Committee see it, at the next general election many electors may be in the mood for change and may find the promises of the established, alternative governing party no more attractive than the performance of the party in office.

Allow for the fact that Mrs Thatcher and the Home Secretary would be silly not to rush through constituency boundary changes that will give the Conservatives a reasonable chance of winning up to 15 extra seats at Labour's expense, while the increase in the number of Northern Ireland seats should mean a few more for the Conservatives.

Allow for the fact that at least 20 former Labour MPs will fight the next election in their present constituencies under SDP colours, and so split the Labour vote. (Nowadays an MP has to lose his seat in an election, rather than retire, to be sure of the tempting redundancy payment.)

Already SDP desertions have raised the Government's parliamentary majority over Labour to 90. Labour therefore may lose seats to its SDP defectors and so have to win up to 50 Conservative seats to be able to run a stable government capable of carrying out the extremist policies to which Bennite party conferences have committed it.

That would be a tall order. Then

the Alliance enters. Anybody's guess as to what the next election will be like. Assume that David Steel and the Gang of Four command anything between 30 to 60 seats in the new House of Commons. The reasonable prospect at present must be that such a number would give them the balance of power. They could decide whether to support a Conservative or a Labour administration.

At that point questions arise about the realignment of political ideas. To David Steel and the most Liberals would not be prepared to allow Mrs Thatcher to tell the Queen that she had been assured of Liberal support. They detest her. But most members of the SDP left the Labour Party because they had no stomach for extremist policies and could hardly agree with the Liberals that the Alliance should prop up Michael Foot as Prime Minister.

Nor is that all. In the midst of these difficulties of getting a Government on the road, the Alliance would demand that legislation should be rushed through Parliament to bring in proportional representation. Marked hints here and there suggest that such legislation should be quickly followed by a general election to give the minority parties at last their due — a due denied by the Liberals themselves when they were a governing party.

When you look at it, it is all seen to run the gamut from crude party expediency to jerry-mandering and blackmail. If the Alliance does turn out to hold the balance of power after the general election, the two main parties would be wise to tell them to go ahead and form a government and then bring it down within a month or two.

## Confused strategies in Northern Ireland

From Dr Brian Harrison  
Sir, Immediately below my letter (October 14) on the utility of IRA campaigns of indiscriminate violence on the British mainland, you published a letter from Mr Ken Livingstone arguing for what he calls "a political solution" to the Ulster problem.

Although like many of his public statements his comment was perhaps politically imprudent, he is of course right. There is not the slightest point in concentrating on repressing violence without simultaneously tackling its underlying cause, for as Mr Livingstone again rightly says, the IRA's agents differ from "criminals and lunatics" insofar as they are motivated (however mistakenly) by political ideals.

What, then, is the "political solution"? Before the launching of terrorist campaigns in the late 1960s it seemed likely to be a gradual and uncoordinated coming together of the two communities, North and South, and of the two groupings within Ulster, Catholic and Protestant, assisted by the IRA's agents. But the EEC's Terrorism Act, disastrously counter-productive response to the situation, has probably postponed this outcome for at least a generation by polarising Ulster's groupings even more seriously than before.

The only "political solution" now possible therefore seems to be to clarify the distorted political outlook of the IRA (and therefore, for the moment, the IRA's agents) and to root out terrorism by making it as clear as day that the union with Ulster will continue for the moment as long as the majority in Ulster desire it. Direct talks for the moment, the best way of doing this compatibly with safeguarding the rights of Ulster's Catholic minority, though one would hope to see this accompanied by efforts to tackle Ulster's high rate of unemployment and by trying to repair the damage the IRA has done by improving North-South contacts within the EEC through improved trade and cultural exchange, and through the type of far-sighted and imaginative constitutional reform within Eire which Dr FitzGerald has espoused.

Any concessionary response from Britain (which I suppose is the real meaning of Mr Livingstone's euphemistic "political solution") seems to me to suffer from three defects: it is undemocratic, it is likely actually to increase the levels of violence in Ulster, and it foments terrorism by increasing Protestant fears and by giving the IRA what it hopes which in the present situation cannot possibly be realised. But perhaps Mr Livingstone can now make his own contribution towards the political redaction of the IRA, and therefore to the elimination of terrorism, by explaining his own "political solution", and how it will be assisted by the British withdrawal from the EEC which he also advocates.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN HARRISON,  
Corpus Christi College,  
Oxford.

From Mr P. W. Duncanson  
Sir, Mr James Prior appears to have emerged from the Northern Irish "political whirlpool" somewhat dazed and disorientated. Your leading article (October 14) dealt with several important aspects of his speech to the Conservative Party conference. I would like to make a number of further points.

Firstly, Mr Prior spoke of "endless bickering and squabbling about day to day matters by both communities". This really is an amazing statement. Although, as he indicates in his speech, district councils have few direct executive responsibilities, councillors of both communities are active on the area boards responsible for

the day-to-day administration of the Health Service, social services, schools, libraries, public health and building control. In addition, district councils have consultative responsibility for matters such as housing and roads. While there are of course a few issues which are guaranteed to provoke lively debates in council chambers I am assured by a friend that even the notorious Craigavon Borough Council has never attained the sustained puerility of the House of Commons during question time. The fact is that local people of all political and religious persuasions work together to provide and administer public services with a level of effectiveness and efficiency to match any elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

Secondly, Mr Prior in reference to the local economy said "the relative success of the Republic (of Ireland) with less of an industrial base and much worse industrial relations argues that Northern Ireland should attract more new industries and secure more jobs". He must have said Scotland, Wales or Merseyside in place of Northern Ireland, the comparison would have been equally valid.

Terrorist activities do indeed tend to deter new inward investment, but the Irish Republic's success is based on several factors not the least of which is an economic strategy geared to the attraction of new industries. This involves an acceptance of a Public Sector Borrowing Requirement proportionately some three or four times greater than that of the United Kingdom. If Mr Prior chooses to draw a lesson from this then he will set to right in cabinet for appropriate changes in economic and industrial policy not only for Northern Ireland but also for Brixton, Toxteth, Moss Side and other depressed areas of the United Kingdom. Economic policy is made for the whole country by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the cabinet. No degree of local autonomy or devolution short of independence can alter this fact.

Thirdly, to a slight extent in his speech and more strongly in subsequent interviews, Mr Prior issued vague threats to the general population of Northern Ireland on behalf of the people of Great Britain. Apart from the fact that I suspect these threats to be idle since I can conceive of no sanctions which could be legally and morally available to the government, Mr Prior should not be complacent of confidence in his own words. He is promoting confrontational policies between Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

On those occasions when it is appropriate to consider Northern Ireland as a distinct entity Mr Prior should perhaps bear in mind that he is Secretary of State to Her Majesty as Queen of Northern Ireland not as Queen of England, Scotland or Wales. Mr Prior has understood this. He has consistently addressed Northern Irish audiences in terms of "we in Northern Ireland" rather than "you".

Finally, previous Secretaries of State have attempted to establish provincial administrations based on power sharing or partnership. So far each Secretary of State has approached local politicians with the question "why don't you share power rather than why don't you share power?" Mr Prior's approach is more fruitful. It is possible to imagine structures in which local politicians and members of the Secretary of State's ministerial staff have jointly administered the affairs of the Province under the discipline of what ever rules of power sharing might be adapted.

Yours sincerely,  
P. W. DUNCANSON,  
Lisburn,  
County Antrim,  
October 15.

## Youth unemployment

From Lord Horder  
Sir, In thinking of solutions to the youth unemployment problem it would be a pity to ignore the one urgent national task that has been staring us in the face for years: the rehabilitation of what can conveniently be called the Black Country. It is a vast area of slag heaps, scrap dumps, choked canals, dead-end railways, roofless factories, poisoned soil, mining, urban and industrial blight we have inherited from our energetic Victorian ancestors.

Large-scale labour camps from which the young could set out daily to restore England's green and pleasant land in a big way would not be impossible to organize. Such camps should be run with central funds by local authorities who alone know what their local aims are, and who are the appropriate owners for the earth-shifting and other apparatus needed. The work itself, with its toughness, creative purpose and visible results, to say nothing of the agreeable crazy-kitchen element inherent in all demolition, would make a direct appeal to all the sensible young. And the use of the new land for new factories, now absurdly being allowed to sprout all over the fields which should be growing our food, would make sense to everyone.

For various reasons I would try to devise a pay scheme by which school-leavers were the highest paid labourers of all, and wages went down after each successive year on the job. There would be room too for special university courses in land rehabilitation engineering, which is likely to throw up problems and require new techniques of its own.

Let us get on with it.

Yours faithfully,  
HORDER,  
c/o George Duckworth and Company Ltd,  
The Old Piano Factory,  
43 Gloucester Crescent, NW1,  
October 15.

## Boldness and generosity

From Mr M. L. Krenner  
Sir, I must strongly disagree with your leading article (October 7) that Israel did not respond with boldness and generosity to the initiative of the late President Sadat. President Sadat was bold and daring on a personal level. He was not bold or generous on a national level. He was not bold or generous when the security of Egypt was at stake. Israel, by giving up the entire territory of Sinai and the oilfields made a very bold and generous gesture, the rejection of which left the security of Israel, being as yet to be seen.

Is not the devaluation of the importance of the concession already obtained and the focusing on further demands part of the cynical bargaining process referred to in your article?

Sincerely yours,  
M. L. KRENNER,  
Institute of Chemistry,  
Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

## Profit or conservation

From Mr George Curtis  
Sir, Mr Charter's letter today (October 14) reveals a somewhat muddled idea as to what a farm is. A farm is an outdoor factory: the land its machine tools. Farms are our oldest industrial premises.

However, unlike our other oldish industries for example, shipbuilding, steelmaking, textiles, cars, and so on, it has on the whole never been given the chance adapted to changing circumstances by adopting new processes, and developing new technologies. What Mr Charter would like to see is a proper "Conservation Industry." I would have thought that we have enough of them already without adding Britain's biggest industry to the list of white elephants and lame ducks. Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE CURTIS,  
Dalebrook House, Dedham,  
Colchester, Essex.

## Mr Heath and the party conference

From Mrs Peter Kirwan  
Sir, On July 21, 1976, Mr Edward Heath and 265 Conservative MPs voted for an amendment to the Education Bill which would have authorized local authorities to devise and run experimental school voucher schemes. These would effectively allow parents to pay for the type of schooling they wanted for their children with money they have already paid out in rates and taxes.

Why then, now, does Mr Heath believe that Conservative MPs would revolt if Sir Keith Joseph should consider introducing the voucher, and that such a scheme would split the country into the party. It would be childish to presume that he was reacting in a Pavlovian fashion to any suggestion put forward by Sir Keith.

One can understand vehement opposition from those who see total comprehensivization as a means towards imposing universal uniformity in education, but not from one who was fortunate that his parents had the right to send him to a good grammar school — a right now denied most "ordinary working class" parents. Should not all those who believe in a free and plural society welcome any attempt once again to allow parents that right to choose?

By allowing all parents an equal sum to spend as they wish, the voucher would do more to break down the present "Two Nations" in education than anything else. It would enable our immigrant communities to set up their own community and religious schools in the same way as the Church of England, Catholics and Jews do at present. It would remove from politicians and bureaucrats the right to dictate to parents. It would, by giving every family the freedom to vote with their purse, truly give power to the people.

Are not these, and many other advantages, worth examining? Naturally, there are things to be overcome, details to be worked out. But Mr Heath's apparent refusal to countenance any ideas other than his own does him less than justice; worse, by insinuating that parents would be incapable of exercising judgement and choice, he exhibits a degree of arrogance and paternalism that fits ill in a modern society, or a party which recognizes that radical solutions are sometimes needed to overcome the nation's ills.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICIA M. KIRWAN,  
104 Ledbury Road, W11,  
October 15.

From Mr J. D. Green  
Sir, As a lifelong and ardent Conservative, I have been very saddened by some of the backbiting which we have seen at the Conservative Party conference this week. Whereas a few short years ago, we were all cheering

Mr Edward Heath as a great leader, we have now not only switched our allegiance to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, but there are some within the party who are even booing our former leader. No doubt, if there were to be a change of leadership tomorrow, and someone presently in opposition to the current official economic policy were to take over the reins, we would immediately transfer our support and start cheering the newcomer whatever the policy, and then in a couple of years' time might be ready to condemn Margaret Thatcher in much the same way as some of our number are now decrying Edward Heath. I would say that this kind of loyalty is little short of hypocrisy.

I will not withdraw my own support for Margaret Thatcher or the economic policy she and her ministers have been pursuing since taking office. I personally believe that the road we are currently following to be right for our country. But I am certainly not going to condemn Edward Heath, or Sir Ian Gilmour, or anybody else in the Conservative Party who is able to come forward with an alternative remedy just because they are in disagreement with Margaret Thatcher, and I will be the first to acknowledge that, far from being an expert economist, I like the vast majority am really unqualified to reject either one view or another so far as the future prosperity of the country is concerned.

I would wish that we give our enthusiastic backing to Margaret Thatcher and her chosen team. But we must also have the courtesy to listen respectfully to other trains of thought, and recognize that they are also honest endeavours to return our country to full prosperity and make it truly "great" again.

Any healthy political party must be able to discuss intelligently all the available options, not only in economic thought, but also in all other matters of government, and this must be seen to be done within the party, so that the world can see that the Conservatives, unlike some of our political opponents, put country first — not political ideology. And I would entreat those who consider leaving the Conservative Party because they feel they can no longer fully agree with all its doctrines to think again — stay with us! Use your voice to let your colleagues hear your feelings, and let us keep together.

Perhaps at this time, the most important pledge that each of us should make is to keep unity in our ranks and to rid ourselves of those who are seen to advocate split and dissension. We have no use for them.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN GREEN,  
60 Webster Gardens,  
Ealing,  
October 16.

## Sponsored MPs

From Lord Underhill  
Sir, I read with amazement the views on trade unions expressed by Mr William Rodgers, MP, at the SDP conference (report October 8). His comments on political affiliation of trade unions and payment of the political levy would appear to reflect a sudden conversion.

Until Mr Rodgers' defection from the Labour Party he accepted financial sponsorship from the General and Municipal Workers' Union for some years — this was paid from the political fund contributions of members of that union.

Four other MPs who have gone to the SDP also readily accepted sponsorship from a trade union right up to their departures from the Labour Party. John Horgan, the Transport and General Workers Union; Tom Bradley, Transport Salaried Staffs Association; John Cartwright, Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers; and Michael O'Halloran, the National Union of Railwaymen. Also, until her election defeat in 1979, Shirley Williams was sponsored by Association of Professional, Executive and Computer Staff.

In addition, four other members who have joined the SDP received financial sponsorship of the Co-operative Party, namely Dickson Mabon, Mike Thomas, Ian Wrigglesworth and John Roper. Have all these persons had sudden conversions or were they really unwilling recipients of the financial sponsorship they received when Labour members of Parliament — if the latter, I cannot recall their objections.

Yours sincerely,  
UNDERHILL,  
c/o Roughton Way,  
Buckhurst Hill, Essex,  
October 11.

## Human rights in Chile

From the Chilean Ambassador  
Sir, I refer to the letter signed by Mr Bindman and others, published in *The Times* (October 15) concerning the Chilean constitution.

In this respect I would like to point out the following:

1. Chilean matters, constitutional or others, are only for Chileans to decide.
2. The Chilean Constitution was approved by 67.54 per cent of the Chilean people, and foreign residents in Chile entitled to vote.
3. It is odd, to say the least, that because the Chilean Minister for Mining visits London, the constitution of Chile ought to be singled out. I have not seen similar reactions on previous similar occasions.

The time for this kind of intellectual imperialism, however benevolent or well meaning, is long past.

Yours sincerely,  
MIGUEL SCHWEITZER,  
Embassy of Chile,  
12 Devonshire Street, W1,  
October 15.

## Farm tenancies

From Mr George H. T. Spring  
Sir, As I have the privilege of teaching law to students not only here but also at Seale-Hayne Agricultural College, I was delighted to see your timely article (October 5) concerning farm tenancies. Keen and well qualified agriculture students who do not happen to be born into the charmed circle of families already occupying farms, whether as owners or as tenants, are becoming increasingly concerned about their chances of practising their craft and becoming their own boss.

The activities of the Agricultural Law Association and the Comité Européen de Droit Rural have in recent years made many of those concerned with this problem aware of the practice in other EEC countries where security of tenure for farmers may be ended when they reach retirement age. This, coupled with some restriction not on ownership but on possession of agricultural land in respect of size of holdings, can provide a means by which younger farmers may obtain access to farm tenancies.

While the grass in Europe is not necessarily greener than our own, youngsters who want to farm may well feel that the farming ladder is more accessible to their counterparts across the Channel and the North Sea than it is to them.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE H. T. SPRING,  
Plymouth Polytechnic,  
Plymouth, Devon,  
October 5.

## With ingratitude

From Mr John C. Blackburn  
Sir, Was I correct in understanding Sir Geoffrey Howe to refer to "positively Albanian" levels of taxation wished on the country by the last socialist government in his speech at the Conservative conference today? I understood there to be no taxation in Albania. Yours faithfully,  
JOHN C. BLACKBURN,  
Walnut Marsh,  
Crawley Down Road,  
Felbridge,  
East Grinstead, Sussex,  
October 14.

## Bridling at Brideshead

From Mr C. W. Sellars  
Sir, Two more errors in the excellent *Bridhead Revisited*. An infantry battalion at that time would be very unlikely to have had jeeps as a form of transport and soldiers being moved by train would almost certainly have been in carriages with corridors and separate compartments. Sincerely,  
C. W. SELLARS,  
Oxton Close,  
Tunstall Lane,  
Tadcaster,  
Yorkshire,  
October 15.

## David Wood

## Putting the by-election in perspective

If the Conservatives lose Croydon North-West in Thursday's by-election, as a governing party in the depth of mid-term unpopularity could and should, much political comment will become hysterical. The defeat will be presented as the first and conclusive sign that new electoral forces released by the Gang of Four will indeed break the mould of the two-party system of government, and that the Liberal-SDP Alliance may at the least hope to hold the balance of power after the next general election.

It may be worth saying before rather than after the Croydon poll that a Conservative defeat would be no more than part of the customary pattern, comparable with Labour losses of blue-chip constituencies at Worthing, Ashfield, North Walsall and Stechford between 1974-79, as well as the loss of Liverpool Edge Hill to the Liberals. No commentator ought to make free with predictions about 1984 without paying some attention to the electoral past. Most post-war governments have taken hard knocks in mid-term. A balanced interpretation of the voting will prove wise, if not obligatory.

This column, which notoriously







## THE ARTS

## Television

## Daunting stakes

Compulsive gambling is an addiction which can damage your health and that of your family. That was the message driven home by *Everman* on BBC 2 last night in "Rock Bottom" with the aid of ingeniously disguised members of Gamblers' Anonymous. Producer Tom Roberts did it most graphically to the point where I thought there might be a case for making the message compulsory on the windows of betting shops and inside bingo halls.

Rock Bottom for a gambler can be a long way down beyond the ruin of himself and his family, even beyond prison. To reach it — and there is a compulsion to do so — he will cheat, steal, lie, sell anything he can get his hands on, repeat frequently, and then do it all again. There are many false bottoms on the way to the rock. Forgive, explained the Rev. Gordon Moody, who founded GA, along the lines of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1954, becomes a dirty word in households where repentance is recognised as just a pause before the next bout.

Addicts, he said, came to these therapy groups with "the scent of hell" on them. Frequently they didn't stay because they couldn't face the underlying problems. For those who did there was no cure. Just an arrest in the addiction which would last as long as their commitment to the group.

One of *Everman's* gamblers charted his downwards progress from his first big bet of £5 on a horse that couldn't lose. The horse did what most horses do: it lost. He tried to recover his money and was trapped by his addiction. He stole from his

company, juggling the computer, and in the four months before his arrest astonished himself by stealing £150,000.

Through members of Gamblers' Anonymous, the parallel organization which exists to support the close family and friends of gamblers through group therapy, *Everman* gave a moving view of the shame that comes from association with this problem.

Though 10 per cent of our prison population are inside because of crimes prompted by gambling, Britain, surprisingly, has more legalized forms of gambling than anywhere else. As opportunities increase so do the addicts.

Earlier in the evening on BBC 1 we saw Robert Banks Stewart's new series, *Bergerac*, which replaces his successful *Shoestring*. The latter always looked as though he might usefully apply some of his deductive abilities to finding his laundry but the new man is of a different cut — sartorially at least.

Like *Shoestring* he has had his problems. Mr Stewart, like his past, *Bergerac* includes a drink problem, a divorce, and nasty injuries that make the police think he can't stay in the force.

They're wrong, of course. *Bergerac*, played by John Nettles, is going to be around for ten programmes, mainly in Jersey where so many fat cats live, and where there's money, there's crime. *Bergerac* is fast-moving and pretty good. Mr Stewart has a kind of oblique approach to the thriller which is refreshing.

Dennis Hackett

## Theatre

## All in a lather

## In the Mood

## Hampstead

Soap opera probably has more in common with ordinary life than any of the great dramas. The most enduring characters of the form are its refusal to bow down to great climaxes. Life was going on before the characters entered and when they have finished their moment on stage, life goes on with or without them. Tragedy is possible, but it is situation tragedy: the dour equivalent of situation comedy.

Michael Abbensetts should not take it amiss, then, when I describe *In the Mood* as soap opera.

It is no easy thing to invent representative characters. Special skills are needed to create people with enough cliché value to seem familiar, to speak for distinct recognizable strains of ideas and yet have the living force of individuals. The common television strategy of decorating soap opera characters with simple foibles and mannerisms, is the cheap way out, but Mr Abbensetts is beyond that and his people seem to have carved their individuality out of the experience of years. Watching them appear is like visiting entertaining people at home, while the gloss of pointed comedy adds to the pleasure.

There is a large measure of genial satire in each portrait, self-critical dimension enhanced by the warm and intelligent performances of his five actors. Even the setting is gently ironic, being the home of a prosperous black businessman in Clapham, impeccably middle class but designed (by Sue Plummer) to evoke nostalgia for a more gregarious life, with a bar and bar stools and room for dancing. There is more than irony in one of the ornaments on the wall, a service pistol which symbolises a military career in the second world war and which acquires the quiet potential of being a weapon in a new, racial struggle.

Mr Abbensetts puts his people through an entertainingly acrimonious dinner party and lets the conversation range widely over British culture, with comically cynical considerations of the tolerance for black contributions to English arts and society expressed through harsh jokes from Stefan Kalipha, which he balances with the more measured responses of Alister Bain and Mona Hammond. It all ends, in Robin Lefevre's fine production, with a rousing affirmation of the ideal of liberty as a last, unexpected legacy of the British empire, as in the conversation, the conversation is far from over.

Ned Chaillet

## Dance

## Rambert, Festival Ballet tours.

Two of our leading dance companies both on tour showed a total of five productions on successive nights last week. Ballet Rambert's offering was a triple bill, one work piece by their three house choreographers, and it was astonishing to see how entirely different the dancers looked from one ballet to another.

Their new director, Robert North, staged *Lone Town*, *Lone Street*, a sort of "West Side Revisited" to jazz songs by Bill Withers against a fire escape setting, by Andrew Senior. Kathy Chard, in a red jump suit, gives a splendid performance as the sort of blonde I would be terrified to meet on a dark night.

They have enough humanity still about them to try to cheer each other with dances and flirting, but the guardians of the place, angry naked ghosts, hurl down their hopes and marshall them on their way. Bruce's programme note suggests an analogy with political oppression; however you take it, the work has a tragic intensity.

That shows the dancers in tragic mood; Paul Melis and Jicky Maas stand out in a uniformly strong cast. The company looks to be in good heart and creative spirit under its new leadership. You could say the same of Festival Ballet, which the previous night showed two premieres by André Prokavsky at the Theatre Royal, Norwich. Prokavsky was a pioneer in rehabilitating Verdi's ballet music with *Vesperi*, staged in 1973 and deservedly popular ever since. Now, mainly to the music from *I Lombardi*, he has made a similar display piece, but this time for a large company.

John Percival

## Opera

The Paris Opéra is playing nightly for the next three weeks at the Palais des Sports while its own home is having substantial renovations. The choice of *Carmen* for this 5,000 seat arena might have been right, but that of the director and designer on the evidence of this production is all wrong.

Anyone outside Paris this month looking for a spare *Carmen* is likely to be disappointed. Down in the fifteenth arrondissement at the Palais des Sports, where the Opéra is in temporary exile while alterations are made to the Palais Garnier, there is an assembly of them as Bizet's opera is being performed nightly from Tuesday through to the end of each week with a Saturday matinee thrown in for good measure.

When the Opéra first announced their *Carmen* season three mezzos were promised for the title role: Viorica Cortez, Alexandrina Miltcheva and Stefania Toczyńska, east Europeans to a woman. They were joined later by Joann Grillo. And a fifth *Carmen*, Glorvina Lino, heard as the Countess Geschwitz in the Covent Garden *Lulu*, is now on her way. Also in attendance are four José (Adantov, Chauvet, Dupoux and Vanzo) and an equal number of Escamillos (Devlin, Ramey, Rouillon and Van Dam). That does not leave a great deal over for anyone else.

This *Carmen* has been conceived quite deliberately as a "popular" production, a distinctly tricky adjective in Paris at the moment. When the Châtelet reopened a year ago, with a production of Offenbach's *La Vie Parisienne* designed to appeal to a public well beyond the charmed circle of opera-goers, the Opéra itself felt a certain amount of backlash. Offenbach's operetta proved a success and it is currently back where it started, at the Théâtre Musical de Paris. The Châtelet is now called, until it is replaced in the middle of next month by Jerome Robbins's production of *West Side Story*. Meanwhile the Opéra is the other side of town at the Palais des Sports and more popular than that it

## Interview

## A soul saved from the church

In a pop music market fuelled more obviously than ever by bad and fashion, the recent British success of Randy Crawford has been taken in critical circles as proof that some of the older values endure. This 29-year-old American, barely known a year ago, is now seen to be the latest in a long line of outstanding female soul singers including Dinah Washington, Nina Simone and Aretha Franklin. The species was thought to have been driven into extinction by the disco boom of the late '70s; the ascent of Miss Crawford is persuasive evidence to the contrary.

Her present nine-concert season at Drury Lane, ending on Friday, sets the seal on her new-found stature. Originally planned merely as a festive visit, it was extended again as the depth of the British public's interest, originally aroused by her number one hit in the pop chart with "One Day I'll Fly Away," became apparent.

Her slight build and disarming girliness cover a shrewd perception revealed when she discusses the slow but steady upward curve described by her career since the day she left the choir of her local Baptist church in Cincinnati, Ohio (she was born further south, in Georgia, but her family moved when she was an infant) and struck out as a night club singer.

"When I was a child," she remembers, "I had no idea of what I was going to do with my life. The people within the church recognized something in my voice, and they gave me a foundation. I became used to standing up and singing to a large number of people. Then friends began to call my parents, telling them about jobs that would be open to me in night clubs, and that's how I became involved in secular music."

"At first, the idea of being out and singing all night on Saturday nights in smoke bars and then turning up the next morning to join the church choir seemed somehow wrong, sinful. So I discussed it with my parents, and with their agreement I gave up the church."

She remained in the clubs for several years, singing mostly with a jazz trio and learning the basics of her art eventually graduating to the comparative big time of the Playboy circuit, a two-week engagement in St. Tropez which somehow turned into three months, and an eventual change of address from Cincinnati to New York. In the early seventies she worked with George Benson, the jazz guitarist who later turned himself into a singing superstar, and she was taken up by the late alto saxophonist



Randy Crawford: singing and stunning.

Julian Adderley, who gave her a prominent role in the recording of *Big Man*, his jazz cantata.

It was while performing at a Los Angeles concert arranged in tribute to Adderley that she began to make an impression on the wider world. The concert was recorded, and she was offered a contract of her own. Five albums have so far resulted, in as many years.

"When I was a child," she remembers, "I had no idea of what I was going to do with my life. The people within the church recognized something in my voice, and they gave me a foundation. I became used to standing up and singing to a large number of people. Then friends began to call my parents, telling them about jobs that would be open to me in night clubs, and that's how I became involved in secular music."

Unperturbed, but clearly determined to do something about it, she points to the example of her own great idol, Aretha Franklin. "She didn't have hit records overnight, I'll have to hit it. It was a matter of coming up with the right combination at the right time."

Ironically enough, she experienced her biggest hit to date when she lent her voice to the Crusaders, recording of "Street Life": a disco song, and one which she confesses to disliking on first acquaintance. "When they played it to me and asked me to sing it, I just didn't understand what the song was about. I thought, how am I going to put any emotion into it? So I sat down with the composers, we discussed what they had meant, and after a while I had it figured out."

The success of "Street Life" enabled her to tour the world in a cameo role with the Crusaders, culminating in a memorable appearance at the Albert Hall, where her brief



Randy Crawford: singing and stunning.

but extremely vicious performance in front of a full symphony orchestra excited so much favourable comment that her record company soon persuaded her back to undertake further promotional appearances. Club-hopping, disc jockeys at local radio stations and meeting her new fans in discotheques paid off with a string of British hits (most recently her version of "Rainy Night in Georgia") and with the present concert.

Reflecting on the gradual nature of her success, she is grateful that it did not arrive, as it might easily have done, ten years earlier. "It might have ruined me. As things turned out, I've really enjoyed every stage of my career. I've always made money and worked under pretty good circumstances, and I've learnt from all the experiences. At various points early on I was made some pretty big offers, but I chose to stay at home because I'm a country girl and my needs were not great. They still aren't."

With characteristic realism, she adds: "I know that my career will have a peak, a middle and an end. That happens to everyone. And I know that a career can mean different things to you at different times. Look at Aretha. Perhaps her records haven't been as outstanding in recent years as they were in the days when I used to stay up all night listening to them. So perhaps singing simply isn't as important to her now, perhaps she's more interested, say, in her family. That doesn't matter. If she never sings another note, she's already done enough."

Richard Williams

## Playing the away fixture

The Paris collection. Three *Carmens*, left to right, Joann Grillo, Viorica Cortez and Stefania Toczyńska with their José, Jean Dupoux, Alain Vanzo, Guy Chauvet and Vladimir Atlantov.

A heavenly voice reads the letter *Micaela* brings to José from his mother. And there are two other invented characters, that bane of contemporary French opera production: a reganuffin, who may be the brother, bastard or even small friend of *Carmen*, and a blind beggar with a brown stick who makes his way to no obvious purpose round the streets of Seville. The latter, the cynics might say, could be a representation of M. Maréchal negotiating the intricacies of Bizet's opera. The more charitable could respond that Maréchal was set a quite impossible task in trying to make dramatic sense with a cast changing nightly.

Musically affairs were very much better at the performance I heard. Viorica Cortez, a mezzo given to bold display and equally bold singing, was happier at the Palais des Sports than she was in Jean Claude Auvray's admirably questioning production at Carpentras in midsummer. Alain Vanzo, helped like all his colleagues by a line of microphones, still has plenty of honey in his tenor, a glorious sound in the true French tradition. Samuel Ramey was the narcissistic and warm-voiced Escamillo, which is wide open to the criticism of foisting off the "popular" audience with the second best.

The Opéra, though, may yet have the last word on the

subject. Next month they are co-producers of *The Tragedy of Carmen*, "d'après Merimee, Bizet, Meilhac et Halévy" at the Bouffes du Nord, which has been devised by Peter Brook for four singers, two actors and an orchestra of 14. The music remains Bizet's, although Marius Constant is understood to be removing some of the cobwebs. At least there will not be a thousand ugly costumes and at least the Opéra cannot be accused of showing Paris only one aspect of Bizet's masterpiece.

*Carmen* at the Palais des Sports runs until November 7.

John Higgins

## Concerts

## Well placed faith

## ECO/Leppard

## Festival Hall

"Our talent is recognizing excellence." So boasts an advertisement by one of the English Chamber Orchestra's corporate members in Friday night's programme. And certainly enough faith in their claim and in the lineup of Bach, Vivaldi, the ECO and Raymond Leppard was placed to fill a substantial part of the Festival Hall for a concert which might well have been considered more appropriate for the greater intimacy of the Queen Elizabeth Hall next door.

In the second half of the programme, in which the orchestra was joined by the London Choral Society, Janet Price and Margaret Cable for Vivaldi's *Gloria*, that faith was generally well-placed. It was a medium to heavyweight performance, its tempi spacious, its soloists forcefully projected, its choral passages strong and lusty through long phrases and powerfully built climaxes. It was prefaced refreshingly and as to the contemporary manner born by a tripartite Latin introduction for soprano and strings.

Typological Marian meditation on earthly transience and heavenly bliss as stylish and joyful in performance as in character.

The ECO is not alone in revealing a cool wave of apathy which threatens to erode the sharp edges of orchestral excellence. Too often now one has to look to Eastern European groups, to less well-established musicians, and to music which still feels the need to prove itself to hear music being made with that urgent need to live and to compel which was sadly missing last night.

Hilary Finch

## Chiaroscuro

## Wigmore Hall

For the opening of the Early Music Centre Festival on Saturday Nigel Rogers's ensemble, Chiaroscuro, chose "mannerist" madrigals — music, from around Monteverdi's time, that illustrates vividly and often extravagantly the sense of their impassioned, image-laden texts. Monteverdi's own place in this tradition was of course represented, most richly in *For ch'el ciel*; Chiaroscuro lived up to their name in the contrasts between the dark, low-pitched intonation and the exuberant rhythmic outbursts.

The music by other men was hardly less absorbing. There were a couple of highly chromatic madrigals by Marenzio, but perhaps the most compelling were by Sigismondo d'India, especially his sequence from Guarini's *Il pastor fido* — music that

moved between expressive recitative, choral harmony and intense counterpoint, held at high dramatic intensity, and ended with an array of exquisitely agonised dissonances to reflect the pains of love and death.

Chiaroscuro, properly, put expressiveness first, mostly pursued by accuracy, which blend a bad third. The voices are unusually diverse, some sharply focussed, some more bland; a pair of duets, one for soprano and one for tenor, showed how curiously Patricia Kwella's and Mr Rogers's voices fit alongside their partners'. Blend is an unsure virtue in madrigals, of course; perhaps Mr Rogers sought to avoid it, but this was near to incompatibility. Sometimes his own plangent tenor rang through too sharply, as if he were asserting his leadership by conspicuous example. But he is unrivalled as a stylist, in generally well-placed, if a little idiom and its passionate nature, and in the handling of Italian words; we had fine things too from Miss Kwella and David Thomas.

In Friday's Queen Elizabeth Hall concert the Academy of London presented two young soloists. Nigel Kennedy dispatched Mozart's G major violin concerto with the aplomb of an old pro; indeed it was an old-fashioned kind of performance, mechanically efficient, sublimely indifferent to Mozartian style — as the occasional portamento to "put the expression in" all too clearly showed. Mr Kennedy is well taught; now he needs to show why it was worth anyone's trouble, for Mozart's drew from him few hints of innate musicianship.

Stanley Sadie

## Philip Jones Brass Ensemble

## Queen Elizabeth Hall

On their return from a tour of Japan the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble celebrated their 30th birthday on the South Bank on Saturday night. Their programme, travelling from the sixteenth to twentieth centuries, represented the breadth of brass chamber music repertoire they are justly renowned for in concerts and recordings and included one of the nine premieres they will give this season of new works written especially for them.

Derek Bourgeois's *Concerto Grosso* was disappointing; its pitting of small groups of players against the full ensemble rarely sparked off musical interplay of any great substance — or originality, though it kept the players on their toes. Although in one continuous movement, its cliché-ridden, blue-tinted slow section, its tame "rumba" amounted to little more than the sum of a few dislocatedly ear-tickling parts.

The first London performance of John McCabe's *Desert II Horizon* dominated the

second half. In its tight, close trumpet writing hovering over trombone and tuba it started with a compelling evocation of tense heat and mirage-like movement in stillness that had potential for purely musical development as well as for illustration. But the work remained an impression, its invention sagging a little in the middle yet memorable for its arid recreation of pacing and converging distances and shifting contours in its skilfully controlled rhythms and pulses. There was also some testing writing for piccolo trumpet, flugelhorn and tuba.

Hilary Finch

## Söderström/Welsh National Orchestra

## Swansea, Brangwyn Hall

Now we know that Cardiff New Theatre can accommodate an orchestra of the required dimensions, there is no excuse for the Welsh National to continue cold-shouldering *Der Rosenkavalier*, a notable absentee from 35 years of activity. And when the time comes, one hopes that advantage will be taken of the company's affectionate working relationship with Elizabeth Söderström to cast her as the Marschallin.

A foretaste was provided in a Swansea Festival concert at Brangwyn hall on Saturday when, with the company's orchestra, she sang the Marschallin's monologue rather clumsily cut from Act One, but offering an example of the compassionate humanity she brings to the role, something to which I recall warming when she sang it for the first time in Geneva in 1973.

On that occasion, there was a bitter-sweet poignancy about her assumption that stopped gracefully short of self-pity, and it was this subtlety of expression, allied to a hauntingly beautiful projection of personality that made Swansea's brief extract so telling. These same qualities informed her performance of the closing episode of *Capriccio* with Richard Strauss's philosophizing an unanswered question invested with magical tone and an elusive sophistication.

The Welsh National Orchestra is clearly ready for *Der Rosenkavalier* but not quite, one feels, for Johann Strauss the younger, for although Mr Armstrong had points to make in the overture to *Die Fledermaus* and *Der Zigeunerbaron* (which included happily idiomatic playing of the Zigeuner oboe solo) style was uncertain and both the *Blue Danube* and *Emperor* waltzes, which deserved to be respected as the masterpieces they are, were unnecessarily cut.

Kenneth Loveland



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Oct 12 Dealings End, Oct 23, Contango Day, Oct 26, Settlement Day, Nov 2

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

\* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. i Pre-merger figures. j Forecast earnings. k Ex capital distribution. l Ex rights. m Ex surplus or share split. n Tax free. o Price adjusted for late dealings. No significant data.



An industry  
course  
for MPs, page 16

# Business News

THE TIMES Monday October 19 1981

Is Mr Reagan  
asking too  
much? page 17

## £80m rig order may go to Clydeside

By Business News Staff

Britain's shipbuilding industry can expect a substantial boost at the end of this month from an estimated £80m order for a dynamically positioned, semi-submersible drilling rig.

It will be the largest rig of its kind designed for European waters.

The British National Oil Corporation is considering ordering the rig in partnership with contractor Ben Odeco to meet drilling requirements for the second half of the 1980s. Talks have reached a crucial stage and while no decision has been taken to place an order, prospects seem high.

The rig would be built by British Shipbuilders' Clydeside yard Scott Lithgow, which needs work to complement existing orders.

BNOOC has emphasized its intention to buy British in discussions with Ben Odeco. Scott Lithgow, which has been talking with both companies, has had experience of building dynamically positioned vessels. In the early 1970s it built the two drill ships, Ben Ocean Lancer and Pacourse I.

A rig order of this size would be a boost for the yard's 5,000 workforce. They are completing a semi-submersible emergency support vessel for British Petroleum due for delivery at the end of the year. Another heavy duty semi-sub drilling rig will be ready in the early part of 1983.

An order would also help counter the disappointment felt when Occidental Petroleum cancelled plans for a floating production facility, which would have been used on its North Sea field in the North Sea. This order would almost certainly have been placed at Clydeside.

The new order would present a challenge to Scott Lithgow's workforce, being the largest rig to be built in the United Kingdom and possibly the most advanced.

BNOOC wants the rig completed by the end of 1983 in time for the drilling season in 1984. A partnership with Ben Odeco would involve the latter placing the order and operating the rig on behalf of the corporation, which would probably then take it on a five-year charter at a cost of around £100,000 (£24m a day).

Ben Odeco, which is a 50-50 partnership between Britain's rig operator Ben Line and the American rig designer Odeco, has designed a new rig to be a modification of an existing vessel.

The company has ties with BNOOC through Atlantic Drilling, a subsidiary of Ben Line. BNOOC is using the semi-sub drilling rig Ben Vrakle on a three-year drilling programme in the North Sea and expects to take on the semi-sub Bendoran for further drilling soon.

## £5m BRIDGE ORDER

Cleveland Bridge and Engineering, part of the Trafalgar House group, has won a £5m contract for the design, supply, fabrication and erection of an extension to the Sixth of October bridge in Cairo.

It is the first major export order to be fabricated at Cleveland's new £26m factory in Darlington, which is due to begin operations in January.

## Stock Markets

FT Index 463.4  
FT 100 Index 61.12  
Total bargains 15,342  
All share index 282.12

## Sterling

\$1.8340  
Index 87.4  
New York: \$1.8360

## Dollar

Index 108.4  
DM 2.2380

## Gold

\$445.00  
New York: \$440.20

## Money

3 mth sterling 16½-16  
3 mth Euro \$ 16½-16  
6 mth Euro \$ 16½-16  
(Friday's close)

## Insurance venture

The Arab insurance venture, ARIG, was officially launched at the weekend by Khalifa bin Salman al-Bahraini, Prime Minister of Bahrain. Mr Fawzi Mubashir al-Saleh, chairman of ARIG, said the new body intended to provide a means for Arabs and the developing world to establish independent insurance expertise.

A 10,000 sq metre site has been set aside for an Arab Insurance Institute in Bahrain. ARIG has an authorized and subscribed capital of \$3,000m (£1,640m) of which \$150m is paid up. Since starting operations in July business has grown, enabling ARIG to double its target for gross premium income to October 1982 to \$100m.

## Coal industry to face monopolies inquiry

By Paul Rontledge, Labour Editor



Arthur Scargill: "One hell of an outcry."

The Government is to refer the National Coal Board to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for an investigation of the mining industry's financial performance, including wage costs and the prospects for loss-making pits.

An announcement of the wide-ranging inquiry is expected from Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, towards the end of next month after problems in drafting the terms of reference have been resolved.

Trade department officials are said to be exercising extreme care in framing the inquiry for fear of sparking off militant responses from the National Union of Mineworkers which could undermine the whole project.

The Cabinet decision to ask for a Monopolies Commission investigation into coal mining could not have come at a more sensitive time for the industry. Union leaders reopen talks on the 25 per cent pay claim today and the campaign to find a successor to Mr Joe Gormley, the moderate union president, is setting under way in earnest.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the left-wing contender to succeed Gormley, said last night that a Monopolies reference would be a ministerial device to pave the way for "dividing off" the profitable state-owned mining sector, to reintroduce cheap coal imports and to phase out operating subsidies altogether.

The miners suspected that the Cabinet was seeking to get through the Monopolies Commission the accelerated programme of pit closures sought by the Coal Board in February but withdrawn after widespread unofficial strikes.

You can rest assured there

will be one hell of an outcry if there is any further attempt to "massacre this industry," Mr Scargill said.

Ministers at the Department of Trade have decided to go for a Monopolies Commission investigation under the 1980 Competition Act, after similar investigations of the electricity supply, gas and water industries. There has been some hesitation, however, because the Government is still reluctant to precipitate a confrontation with the miners.

The inquiry is designed to look at the whole of the Coal Board's operations, taking in the hitherto "no go" area of unit cost of coal production in relation to the retail price. It would also go into the "close relations" with the Central Electricity Generating Board,

which has guaranteed to take 75 million tonnes of coal a year from the coal board, and the subsidies being paid to persuade the generating authorities not to buy cheap foreign coal.

The Monopolies Commission would be asked to investigate further the cost-effectiveness of industrial Board's huge £600m-a-year investment programme. The whole inquiry could therefore take between six months and a year before reporting with recommendations - when the miners' anger over a new leadership will be drawing up their next militant wage claim.

The miners believe that the inquiry could be used not only to scrutinize their working practices but also as a route to the closure of many loss-making older collieries whose output could be made up at more efficient pits.

They are concerned that the Government could restrict new licences for profitable open-cast mining to the private sector, which with a build-up in this method of extraction could produce a 25-million tonne capacity industry independent of the National Union of Mineworkers.

The Prime Minister herself is authoritatively said to be keen on the Monopolies Commission investigation, and the political pressure for such an inquiry is expected to override the Civil Service problems of drawing up acceptable terms of reference.

The final report, examining a whole range of performance indicators, including productivity, relations with wage rates and commercial trading arrangements with other organizations, could put the Cabinet at a considerable propaganda advantage in its relations with the miners and the Coal Board.

## Herbert scales up to double production

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Herbert & Sons, which introduced electronic weighing machines to the retail trade in the early 1970s, plans to double production to cope with expected orders for its new generation of electronic weighing equipment.

The 220-year-old family-owned Suffolk company claims to be wrestling a substantial market share from W & T Avery, now a subsidiary of the General Electric Company (GEC), and so far is confident of holding off the worst of a potentially big threat from Japan.

Instead of turning to cheap imports, Herbert decided to design and produce the new equipment, employing a micro-processor system, at Haverhill. It has been working £300,000 a year on research and development in the past three years, compared with last year's turnover of £5m.

Herbert, which has tripled its workforce to nearly 200 in the past 10 years, has put its main sales thrust into the retail scales market although it is also penetrating the much larger industrial weighing sector.

Birmingham-based Avery once held more than 60 per cent of the retail scales market but according to Mr Bob Sheehy, managing director of Herbert, this share has declined

to around 40 per cent. Herbert, which three years ago had 20 per cent or less of the retail scales market, in the last six months achieved 45 per cent.

The biggest potential threat to Herbert could be from the Japanese, Mr Sheehy believes. He said: "Look at the way they have seized the cash register market. But we believe we are one step ahead of them in matching technology to market needs here."

Part of Herbert's expected growth could come from exports. Mr Sheehy says: "But this means adopting to varying national needs on weighing machines, a factor for foreign competitors when exporting to Britain. Department of Trade approvals are necessary on machine specifications."

The Japanese, whose main United Kingdom presence is through Toshiba, are likely to mount a real challenge once their marketing and product mix is fully adjusted to the British market, Mr Sheehy believes. The Japanese have an estimated 15 per cent of the retail scales market.

The Herbert new-generation scale is competing in a market where the switch to digital read-outs has created big sales opportunities. The big multiple retailers have already changed about 70 per cent of their scales.

## Trade seeks figures on wine imports

By Nicholas Cole

The Wine and Spirit Association is pressing for the earliest possible restoration of clearance figures for imported wines. No statistics for clearances out of bond have been issued this year, according to the association.

The situation, which arose out of the civil servants' dispute, is making it difficult for importers to form a detailed business view on trade trends, stock requirements and projected marketing levels. Supply is unaffected, however, and there are no grounds for fearing a shortage in the busy pre-Christmas period.

Main users of the figures are the brewing groups, many of which have significant retailing interests and a dominant position in the wine and spirit trade.

A spokesman for the association says that companies are being largely thrust back on their own subjective assessment of what is likely to move. The figures for 1981 will probably be available in due course, but will not be directly helpful to the trade, he adds.

The other main effect of the civil servants' strike receiving attention from the association is the statistical base being used by Customs and Excise as it prepares to revise the Treasury on likely, desirable revenue from imported wines and spirits in 1982-83.

## £250m losses for British Steel

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

The British Steel Corporation had losses totalling £250m in the first half of the current financial year. This follows last year's record deficit of £368m.

BSC, now involved in another intensive rationalization with heavy job cutbacks over the past two years, will shortly submit a new corporate plan to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Industry Secretary.

Mr Ian MacGregor, BSC chairman, still hopes to reduce last year's heavy loss by keeping this year's overall deficit to under £400m, but ministers have been told that British Steel is looking for at least another £400m of government financing next year.

British Steel's claim for a substantial external financing limit - it received £1,100m last year - reflects the flat demand for steel, continuing heavy losses

and the need to fund further job-shedding. Depending on the scale of further cutbacks, the financing limit may be even higher.

Mr MacGregor, who has 20 months of his three year contract to run, has told ministers that the highest priority is being given to improving performance through increased productivity and reduction of costs. Senior BSC executives believe that the new round of cuts and further rationalization—some of which could be achieved by splitting into private companies—must be completed by mid-1982 if British Steel's target of breaking even by the end of next year is to be realized.

Thousands of jobs have already disappeared. The present BSC labour force of 109,000

could fall to between 80,000-90,000. BSC executives recognize that their attempts to swing the corporation round are now entering a critical phase. Key targets will be reduction of the time taken to carry out maintenance tasks and improving overall efficiency.

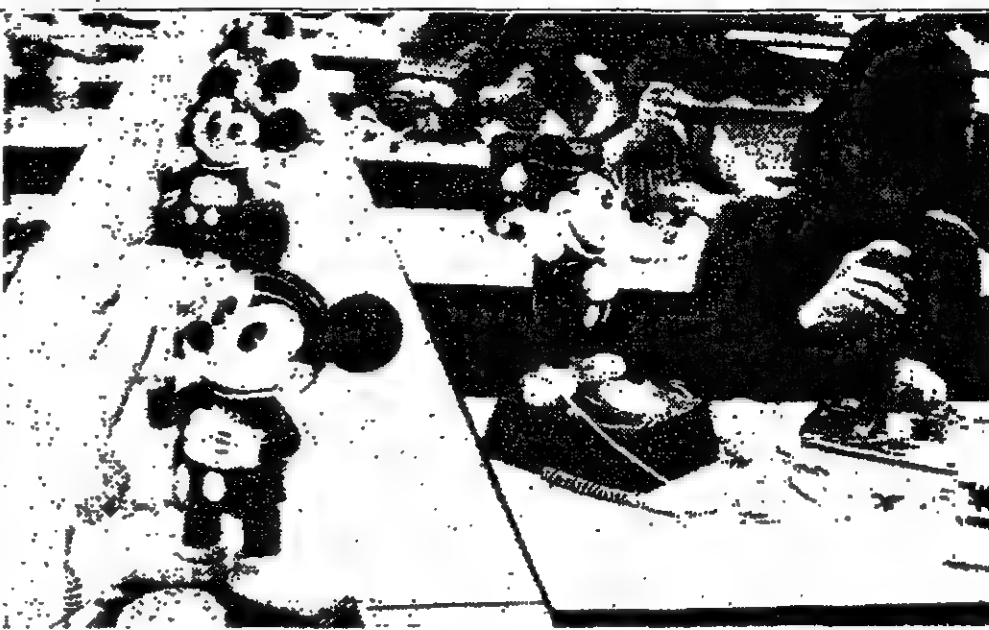
Encouraging progress has already been made at some plants, especially at Port Talbot and Llanwern, South Wales. But even there the steel produced. The performance of other large integrated facilities, notably at Ravenscroft, Lanarkshire, and the complex on Teesside, are losing between £15 and £30 a tonne.

The corporation remains committed to trying to secure a sufficiently large volume of orders to run all its integrated plants with a total

capacity of 14.4 million tonnes. But last year's forecasts of future expectations are having to be revised.

Hoped-for improvement in demand is not expected to materialize until the second half of the year. That upturn allied to further productivity boosts and the success of British Steel together with other European producers in lifting their prices at the beginning of next year, are among the critical factors which Ministers will have to bear in mind when deciding the level of support which they—and more importantly the Treasury—can provide.

Apart from attacking costs in the production area, BSC is looking at the room for making savings in the distribution of the steel it produces.



Plessey workers with Mickey Mouse: a British Telecom approved model.

## Dixons has to dial long distance

By Clive Cookson

British telephone manufacturers have been accused of ignoring the huge marketing opportunities presented by the ending of British Telecom's monopoly because they are afraid of offending the corporation by making equipment for private suppliers before official standards are published next year.

The accusation was made at the weekend by executives of Dixons Photographic, one of Britain's largest retailers of electronic equipment.

Mr Mark Souhami, Dixons managing director, said: "Our policy is to buy British whenever we can, so we approached all the big United Kingdom manufacturers to produce equipment to our specification—but to no avail."

The result is that on Friday Dixons will announce a new range of computerized memory telephones manufactured in Hongkong for sale in its 250

branches and in other chains including Greens and Rumbelows. They will be the first to be promoted by a big national retailer, and Advanced Consumer Electronics, Dixons' distribution subsidiary, hopes to sell tens of thousands of them within a few months.

Ironically, Dixons will be able to sell the new telephones legally, but their customers will not be able to use them legally in this country because they are not approved for use on the British Telecom network.

No equipment has yet been approved because the necessary bureaucratic machinery does not exist. The British Standards Institution and the British Electrotechnical Approvals Board, which will be doing the work between them, are unlikely to set the basic standards before the spring.

Although the British Telecommunications Act, which

threw the system open to competition, took effect on October 1, its provisions are being put into effect over three years. Retailers are finding, however, that the public expects instant liberalization and does not understand or sympathize with British Telecom's explanation.

Mr David Ruffa, managing director of Advanced Consumer Electronics, said he tried particularly hard to get Plessey to make the sets in Britain but he could not persuade them to quote for the job. GEC Telecommunications, which also approached unsuccessfully, he said.

Plessey acknowledge the company's unwillingness to become involved in the manufacture of a product whose use would technically be illegal. "What is of concern to Plessey is that we have a vast range of relationships with British Telecom and they have to be protected," the company said.

## ICL telephones deal with Mitel

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

A telecommunications agreement between ICL, Britain's largest domestic computer manufacturer, and Mitel of Canada will be announced by ICL today.

The deal will include the manufacture, marketing and development of Mitel's large private automatic branch exchange (PABX) and will

bring ICL into the telecommunications business as the central feature of the "electronic office".

The units will be manufactured at the new Mitel plant at Newport, Gwent, or at an ICL plant within the United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, Redifon which has been having exploratory talks about the possibility of exchanging electronic and telecommunications technology with the Japanese, is expected to sign a deal with Nippon Electronic Corporation for its supply and possible manufacture in the United Kingdom of radiopaging systems.

This British company has also

recently announced collaboration agreements with Fujitsu of Japan on the manufacture of mainframe computers and microchip technology.

There have been widespread fears within the United Kingdom telecommunications industry that the breaking of British Telecom's monopoly to supply equipment too quickly would result in British manufacturers losing out to foreign suppliers, particularly the Japanese. The ICL deal is expected to go some way towards allaying those fears, it should the outcome of collaboration talks between Ferranti and GTE of the United States.

## Economy "is growing"

Britain's economy has been growing strongly during 1981, a group of economists says in a report published today.

But another set of City analysts claims that the postponement of the pick-up in world economic activity will hinder the United Kingdom in pulling out of recession.

Horrie Govett, the stock-brokers, asserts that the turning point in the economy was in February, the result of companies running down their stocks more slowly and an easier access to money policy. The recent rise in interest rates to bolster sterling could cause the economy's growth to falter in the next few months but renewed decline is unlikely.

Analysts at Phillips and Drew, the stockbrokers, say in their World Investment Review that the United Kingdom efforts to pull out of recession will be hindered by the delay in the pick-up of world economic capacity.

## Russia rejects Japan deals

The Soviet Union has rejected Japanese bids for \$1,740m (£950m) of gas pipeline compressor stations in what is regarded as retaliation against Japanese economic sanctions over the Afghan invasion.

Sources say a consortium of West German and French firms and a group of Italian companies was awarded the deals to build 22 stations on a pipeline linking the Urengoy natural gas field in western Siberia to the Czechoslovak border area.

## BUSINESS BRIEFING

### Trade unions to rally in anti-import protest

Thousands of trade unionists will converge on London on Wednesday to take part in a mass rally and lobby of Parliament to protest against the ever-increasing levels of import penetration.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, will address the rally at Central Hall, Westminster.

At the rally, to be chaired by Mr Stanley Orme (right), the Labour spokesman on industry, general secretaries and senior officials of unions involved in the import controls campaign will outline "devastating effect imports are having on every sector of industry".

In the afternoon MPs will speak at more meetings in the grand committee room, according to the Transport and General Workers' Union.



A petition will be handed in at Downing Street and Mr Patrick Jenkin and Mr John Biffen, the Secretaries of State for Industry and Trade, have been invited to state the Government's case.

## THIS WEEK

Today: Figures on industrial and commercial companies' capital account and net borrowing requirement for second quarter. Provisional statistics for retail sales during September.

Tomorrow: New orders during August in the construction industry with provisional figures on unemployment for the present month, and unfilled vacancies. The United Kingdom trade figures for September. These figures will include the export figures for March and April. Karl Otto Foehl, President of the Deutsche Bundesbank, is speaker at the Conference Board's annual International Financial and Economic Outlook Conference at the London Hilton Hotel.

Wednesday: Mr John Wakeham, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, will announce a decision on the future of the Department of Industry's Manufacturing Advisory Service. Mr Norman Tobitt, Secretary of State for Employment, is scheduled to make a major policy speech to the three-day annual conference of the Institute of Personnel Management in Harrogate.

Thursday: Figures for second quarter institutional investment and third quarter consumers spending (preliminary estimate). The Department of Industry launches the national testing laboratory accreditation scheme which is intended to improve the quality and standards of British goods.

Friday: Figures for sales and orders in the engineering industries during July will be released by the Department of Industry; also figures for new vehicle registrations.

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We should know,  
we used  
to be one."**

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Denationalization's stony path

In his Mansion House speech last Thursday, the Chancellor made much of the need to continue the disposal of public assets to the private sector so that they can flourish in the hothouse of market disciplines. We shall shortly see the second flowering (British Aerospace being the first) with the sale of 49 per cent of Cable & Wireless next week. The Government will find it easy enough to raise up to £200m from the partial denationalization. Buyers at perhaps 400p a share should be attracted to a company which derives almost all its earnings from overseas, is cutting its domestic workforce by 40 per cent over the next three years and is engaged in high technology businesses.

C. & W. is, in fact, the nearly ideal haven for fund managers. A United Kingdom-based company which carries out its activities without the hindrance of troublesome unions and derives a good proportion of profits from Hongkong and Bahrain, both outstanding examples of the free market ideal. Indeed, it is indicative of C. & W.'s blue chip status that the current stock market slide does not appear to be causing undue alarm at sponsoring merchant bank Kleinwort, Benson. The issue should still go well in less than perfect circumstances.

However, others on the denationalization list are unlikely to gladden Sir Geoffrey's heart. Details of the staff buy-out of National Freight Company, due today, should show why there will be no public flotation for at least five years. And British Transport Docks Board, bits of British Rail, and even BNOC in an era of falling oil prices, are unlikely to make investors rush for their cheque books.

Cable and Wireless and BAe are untypical of the public sector. Had they continued to be managed within the Whitehall sphere, loans raised from government would have been handsomely repaid from rising profits. Instead, the investor will gain from their success rather than the taxpayer after the initial funding. It is doubtful whether the same can be said of other candidates which are likely to demonstrate that wholesale denationalization remains a nice theory.

### Financial Sector

#### Outpacing manufacturing

A decade is a short time in finance. Ten years ago smart money followed money rather than things, or so the fashionable argument ran. Financial institutions ranging from banks, insurance companies to personal advisory services commanded a respect and a following in the stock market that was not accorded to manufacturing and other commercial concerns. Then came the crash of the mid-seventies and the mythology that had grown up around the financial institutions took a knock from which it has not been easy to recover.

Now Quilter Goodison, the stock-brokers, have restated the case for financial institutions in a new paper that looks back a good 20 years and more at Britain's economic history. For many years now most industrial companies in the United Kingdom have experienced sluggish growth compared with their financial counterparts. Since 1965, industrial company profits adjusted by the retail price index have risen some 29 per cent before stock appreciation, and some 7 per cent after it. But the industrial and commercial company performance is heightened by the contrast with financial companies. Gross trading profits of financial concerns rose 215 per cent in real terms over the period 1963-79 and banking sector income rose over 400 per cent in real terms.

Quilters goes on to argue that what is required is a stimulus to the United Kingdom economy and a major reversal of gross domestic product shares from wages to profits and investment which would enhance the rate of return on capital, and the attractions of the stock market. The Government's monetary policies have impinged severely on industrial company profits through high interest rates and low activity.

The brokers are doubtful whether the Government will succeed in raising profitability generally, and rates of return for manufacturing industry. The reasons lie in English attitudes and the fact that secular trends are against this. The essence of their argument is that if

United Kingdom interest rates are going to move upwards over the next 12 months, as seems likely whatever has happened in the past few days, then there will be a further transfer of funds from industrial companies to financial intermediaries. The review hammers home the real secular growth of financial companies, especially those with international links and aspirations, in the past 20 years and acts as yet another bell tolling for the debilitated state of British manufacturing industry.

### Leasing

#### Moving towards the balance sheet

After no less than six years hard labour, the Accounting Standards Committee has given birth to its exposure draft on accounting for leasing. Such a length of time does not necessarily mean it has produced a mouse, but the issues the draft raises are really rather familiar by now to any business which has plunged into leasing.

The key element in the draft, ED 29 published last Friday, is the proposal that leased assets, especially those known to be in the category of finance leasing, should come on to the balance sheet. For long now leased assets, even if they were shown in the accounts, have been appearing in a note to the main body of the balance sheet.

The proposal that the lessee — the one which actually uses the leased asset — should show the asset on one side of the balance sheet and the obligation to pay future rentals on the other is far from new. Many large companies using leased assets already do so; bowing sensibly to the general movement towards greater disclosure.

Yet the lesson of Court Line lives on — when it crashed, the failure was made all the worse and all the more complicated by the appearance of leased assets and liabilities which no one but the senior management knew about. The amount of time the authors of ED 29 have spent on the draft is not to be dismissed lightly. There are genuine and difficult problems to be discussed and overcome. The more public discussion on the issue there can be the better. But if the accountants get their way, users of accounts will be in a better position to understand the true financial position of companies.

### Minorities

#### It can pay to say no

Conventional wisdom is not to be scorned simply because it is the opinion of most men. It says, for instance, that investors should never lock into minority holdings. The argument is that the controlling shareholder with most of the shares will run the company in his own interest, while minority holders with shares hard to deal in could wait years for an offer to bail them out at possibly a ridiculous price.

But never is a strong word. Sir Henry Warner and his followers at property company Law Land are refusing to give in to Churchillbury, whose paper offer is now worth only 101p a share. Outstanding Law Land shares, still quoted, are just above this price. Churchillbury says that Law Land dissidents will not get a bigger offer; Sir Henry says they will. The little band of 10 per cent or so behind Sir Henry look over Churchillbury's shoulder; prevent Churchillbury from removing Law Land assets; force Churchillbury into producing separate sets of accounts; and if Law Land dissidents are to be believed, they are not at risk dividend wise, because Churchillbury wants the income too.

The whole thing is a gamble, but gambles sometimes come off. Only last August Tricoville, in women's fashions, had an agreed bid of 92p a share for 60.39 per cent of the equity. All the same, the other shareholders eventually got 107p from the bidder, Taurus Vehicle Leasing.

Again, Mr Roy Strudwick, the builder, tried to buy out the public shareholding in Royco last year at 50p a share, but he was forced to go to 60p. A while back, Graff Diamonds had to give ground to go private (after going public) and the Guthrie case, the most famous of the recent shut-out deals, prompted a change in take-over rules.

## Business Diary profile: Rumasa's José-María Ruiz-Mateos

Madrid The Rumasa group's twentieth anniversary coup to take over this month of Galerías Preciados, Spain's second biggest department store chain, in a £75m swap without putting up a penny in hard cash, is typical of the free-wheeling financial style of Rumasa president, 49-year-old José María Ruiz-Mateos.

With acquisition of Galerías Preciados, Rumasa becomes Spain's biggest private employer with 51,000 employees. But that is only the half way mark for Ruiz-Mateos, who years ago set himself the goal of heading a business with 100,000 on the payroll.

share and its capital risk in Galerías Preciados to José María Ruiz-Mateos, an important exercise in humility.

"After several years of trying to reorient the waning course of one of the most important companies in the country, especially with regard to commercial management, the manager-bank had to throw in the towel and deliver the goods not to a multinational, not to another bank, but to a newcomer looked upon with fear in the south, misgivings in the centre and disgust in the north."

Although it has been steadily losing ground to its rival, El Corte Inglés, Galerías Preciados is one of the most prominent retail businesses in Spain, long considered an excellent investment. Until a few years ago, one of its shareholders was said to be General Franco's wife, Carmen Polo de Franco.

The purchase involved three operations, all of them integral parts of the agreement. In the first phase Rumasa ceded title to about 13,000m pesetas (£72m) worth of real estate to the Urquijo Bank. The big holding company also guaranteed to subscribe a capital share increase of 12,600m pesetas (£72m) in Galerías Preciados, to be used



Busy bee: José María Ruiz-Mateos, president of Rumasa Group.

primarily to pay off Galerías Preciados' debts to the Urquijo Bank.

In exchange for the real estate, the Urquijo Bank agreed to turn over to Rumasa approximately 20 per cent of Galerías Preciados' shares which it controlled prior to the capital increase and arrange the department store chain's share capital increase (with the consent of the other stockholders). This was possible since the majority of the board of

directors of the Galerías Preciados made up of Urquijo's men.

The bank also agreed, when the real estate was turned over by Rumasa, to cancel the estimated 10,000m pesetas (£57m) debt owed by Galerías Preciados to Urquijo. Thus Rumasa paid for both the capital increase, which boosted its ownership in the department store chain to about 80 per cent, and the shares held by Urquijo, with the real estate.

The head of Rumasa is a stickler for detail who nevertheless relies frequently on intuition. His persistence is legendary. He got his start in 1957 by writing to Harvey's of Bristol, proposing that Harvey's appoint the Ruiz-Mateos family Bodega in Jerez the exclusive supplier of sherry for the British company which at that time had no wine cellar of its own in the sherry district.

He at first got no response, then replies which he considered unsatisfactory. In the course of a year, with the aid of a dictionary, he wrote the English firm 34 letters. He started Rumasa in 1961 in an office in Barcelona with seven employees and a capital of 300,000 pesetas.

Ruiz-Mateos, a staunch Roman Catholic father of 13 who does not hide his sympathies for Opus Dei the

controversial Roman Catholic organization, avoids politics and maintains that he did not benefit from connexions under the generalissimo, when Opus Dei members occupied various ministries in the Government.

According to tax returns published by the finance ministry, he is one of Spain's richest men yet he dines frugally, barely tastes the wines on which his empire was founded, and has no time, he says, for sports or entertainments. The symbol of a bee in a six-sided cell which crowns all Rumasa buildings, characterizes this man and his huge creation.

He is quick to sense a good buy. When sherry-type wine from Cyprus was cutting into his sherry sales in Britain, he bought out one of the more prominent competitors, Monte Cristo, a marketing firm which did not own wine cellars or vineyards on Cyprus. Ruiz-Mateos then put the Monte Cristo label on his own wines from the Morillas Montilla district in southern Spain, wines from outside the sherry district but similar to the sherry-type Cyprus wine. The result: he eliminated the competition and found a good market for his own near-sherry wines in one fell swoop.

Harry Debelius

## Is Mr Reagan asking too much this time?

'It is no accident that the President's spending and tax estimates are more optimistic than those of his critics. They are based on an economic forecast which in Washington is now being called the 'rosy scenario'

The official estimates — up to \$771,000m and this huge total is itself only 19 per cent of the total gross national product projected by official forecasters for that year.

Small percentage changes in revenue and spending totals of this size can lead to huge changes in the difference between them — the deficit. Nevertheless, a gap as big as \$80,000m to \$100,000m demands some further explanation.

It is no accident that Mr Reagan's spending and tax estimates are more optimistic than those of his outside critics. They are based on an economic forecast which is being called the "rosy scenario" in Washington. Here, as in Britain, the government usually produces the most optimistic forecast for the economy and here, too, optimism about growth tends to shrink spending projections, raise revenue estimates and so lower the forecast budget deficit.

At the heart of the Reagan economic plan is an inconsistency between two of the President's declared goals — reducing inflation with a tight money policy and simultaneously expanding the economy.

The forecast for next year assumes real growth during the year of 5 per cent, coupled with an underlying inflation rate of 7½ per cent. Real growth in 1983 and 1984 is also projected at 4½ per cent to 5 per cent.

Several outsiders believe that stagnation is more likely,

with little real growth and perhaps gently rising unemployment. The tight money policy of the Federal Reserve will simply not allow room for as much expansion in the total economy as the President assumes.

But this assumed rapid growth has a crucial impact on the Administration's revenue forecasts. For every one percentage point less growth in the economy, the treasury loses about \$5,000m in tax revenues. For, as the economy grows more slowly, profits and incomes are lower and so, too, are the taxes paid on them.

Mr Alan Greenspan, a former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Ford, believes that total revenues will be only \$624,000m in the present 1982 fiscal year compared with an official estimate of \$663,000m. By 1984 Mr Greenspan thinks that the economy will have picked up somewhat, but the lower path that it follows between now and then would cut revenues by rather more in each year than the \$30,000m he sees in 1982.

Other experts doubt that the economy will recover much, even by 1984, if the Federal Reserve Board keeps to its money targets. By then the revenue losses from earlier years could be running as high as \$50,000m or more.

Ironically revenues are also likely to be depressed by a fall in oil prices. The windfall profits tax on oil companies is highly

sensitive to the domestic oil price, which is now expected to be lower than that incorporated in Mr Reagan's first forecasts. This could cost \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 by 1984.

Mr Reagan's spending figures are suspect, too. The over-optimistic growth projections have led to a probable underestimation of the cost of unemployment benefits and other social programmes related to income. However, this has a much smaller impact on government spending in America than in Britain, as benefits are generally less generous. Estimates of the additional cost of extra benefit payments in 1984 are mostly less than \$10,000m.

The most glaring economic mistake in the earlier projections was on interest rates. The higher cost of servicing the government debt has so far added \$15,000m to the original programme estimated for 1982 spending.

The Administration's latest figures for 1983 show a more realistic interest rate cost. But optimism creeps back into the 1983 and 1984 forecasts. By 1984 Mr Reagan is predicting interest rates on short-term government debt of just under 7 per cent. The congressional budget office expects more than 10 per cent.

An extra point in interest rates can add \$2,000m to government spending immediately, rising to \$6,000m a year after several years.

Critics also believe that budget director Mr David Stockman has systematically

underestimated the likely cost of the whole range of government spending programmes. Technical estimates of how fast departments would spend, how quickly people entitled to benefits would claim them and how successful the Administration would be in holding down administrative costs have all been at the low end of the likely range. Unless he is extraordinarily lucky, this could cost the President several thousand million more dollars by 1984.

The last, and perhaps the most important, reason why critics dispute the President's estimates is political. They do not believe that even Mr Reagan will be able to win all the cuts that he plans, let alone whatever more may be needed to balance the budget by 1984.

The President's latest round of cuts is supposed to save \$25,000m by then and to raise an additional \$11,000m in revenue. But as congress is demonstrating, they are likely to be fought over bitterly when the President finally delivers the details to Capitol Hill.

On top of these Mr Reagan has served notice that he will need still more reductions in spending, worth \$23,000m in 1984, which he has said that he will unveil next year. Given the difficulty the Administration is having in coming up with this year's cuts, critics believe that he will be hard put to find still more by January when the 1983 budget is presented in Congress.

The President is still fighting hard for his proposals. He has ordered government departments to go ahead with cutbacks even before Congress approves them. But such political footwork cannot help if his underlying budget strategy is at odds with political and economic reality.

Caroline Atkinson

IBM UK, Burmah Oil, Wiggins Teape and Metal Box are only a few of the companies which during the seventies moved their head offices into the provinces. Robin Laurance reports on their experience.

## How big firms manage to live without London

For commuters who use their cars the Monday morning journey is the worst of the lot.

Not so for Mr Eddie Nixon. For, while most capitalists of industry are crawling through city traffic to the office, the 56-year-old chairman and chief executive of IBM UK is speeding through the pleasant Hampshire countryside. By the time he arrives, he has the sea air in his nostrils and the sound of gulls ringing in his ears.

In the early nineteen seventies Mr Nixon upped sticks and moved his head office out of London and down to the sea at Portsmouth. He was not the only one to leave town. Burmah Oil went to Swindon; Wiggins Teape to Basingstoke and Metal Box to Reading. Others followed suit.

The reasons for going were found enough. Burmah and IBM wanted space to expand their head offices. Wiggins Teape, at a plum site in the shadow of St Paul's, found itself sitting on a gold mine. Sir Alex Page, then chairman of Metal Box, wanted a better living and working environment for his staff: "London", he said at the time, "has become a pretty awful place to work."

But there were those on the Metal Box board who were not quite so keen. In the

United States, the parent board of IBM threw up their arms in horror at the very thought of their British company taking its headquarters out of London. The question was: can the head office of a major company function efficiently outside London — away from the City, from Whitehall, Fleet Street and the Inns of Court?

The answer, now that the dust has settled, seems to be that you can. Mr Nixon, who had initial worries about leaving the City's pool of expertise, now says that the City needs to look to its heels. Mr West, who has headed the level of expertise at its local Cosham branch and provided day-to-day foreign business facilities as well, Barclays did the same for Burmah at Swindon. Nixon has even hired what he describes as "very bright local accountants."

Nor, it seems, are bankers averse to the occasional day in the country. "This business of needing the City on your doorstep," says Burmah's finance director Mr Laurence Urquhart, "is something of a myth."

But the fact remains that meetings in the City are still a necessary part of business and the further out you are the more carefully you need to plan your day. Mr Urquhart tries to accumulate his London meetings. "Just one appointment in town does tend to waste time." Of necessity, his car has become a mobile office complete with telephone. (He curses the stretch of M4 that is out of range.)

"Most departments have needed to adapt in some way or other," says Mr David Procter, Burmah's public affairs manager. When he discovered that the final editions of the morning papers did not reach Swindon, he did a deal with a newspaper in Paddington who bundles them on the 7.45 train.

The most obvious advantage of a country head office is that it is cheaper. Metal Box netted £19m after its move to Reading; IBM, which did not own its London offices, will be reaping the benefits in the longer term.

There is also the advantage of a purpose-built headquarters. Metal Box lashed out on squash courts and an indoor heated swimming pool. IBM made its new building suitable for expansion. At



Mr Eddie Nixon, chairman and chief executive of IBM UK, sea air in his nostrils and a room with a view.

tractive working conditions clearly have something to do with the much lower staff losses in the country. "In Reading," says Metal Box vice-chairman Mr Jim Gilbertson, "we are keeping people very much longer than we did in London. That means that we spend less time training new staff and have in turn leads to higher productivity."

At Portsmouth IBM's attrition rate is 50 per cent lower than it was at Chiswick and, with no London allowance to pay, there is a 7 per cent saving on the wage bill.

But there are some disadvantages in leaving town. The extra travelling involved — especially for the more senior executives — clearly adds to the stress of the job. Recruiting specialists — tax lawyers and the like — who think that they are being dragged out of their natural environment can be another difficulty. (Once they come, however, they are less likely to move elsewhere.)

Not rubbing shoulders with the City's financial community is generally considered to be only a minor disadvantage. Mr Nixon says that the occasional lawyer complains of feeling uncomfortable away from the legal hub. It is to do with what some people call "City adrenalin."

As Burmah's Mr Urquhart puts it: "The odd twed suit appears and you can't help wondering whether the cutting edge is in danger of getting a little blunt."

It is a nagging worry that Mr Gilbertson at Metal Box cannot altogether shake off. He says that there is no evidence to suggest that the

company is losing its sharpness — the economic environment is enough to keep people keen. But behind his assertion you cannot help feeling that there are doubts.

For their part, the chosen towns have welcomed the newcomers with open arms. Their contributions to the rates have helped pay for improved civic amenities and shops and restaurants have been kept on their toes. They have also provided more jobs.

"All the same," Mr Gilbertson says, "a new company in town has to be a good citizen." He worked hard to win the confidence of the city fathers. But when someone left the office lights on during a power crisis, they still revere him.

INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT (Saturday, English 2-0, Germany 2-0, Scotland 1-0, Netherlands 1-0, Wales 0-0, West Germany 2-0).

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# KANO STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

## TENDER NOTIFICATION KNADP 1

### PLANT, HEAVY AND LIGHT VEHICLES

Supply and delivery of Plant, Heavy and Light Vehicles to Kano State Agricultural Development Project (KNADP) in Kano, Nigeria.

The Federal Government of Nigeria is to receive a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of the KNADP and it is intended that proceeds of this loan will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this invitation is issued. Payments will be made only upon approval by IBRD in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreement.

#### PLANT

Category	Item	Description	Quantity
1	1	200 HP (149Kw) approx. Crawler Tractors. Power Shift with angle dozer	4
	2	ditto but fitted with straight bull dozer.	3
	3	ditto plus rear mounted triple shank ripper.	5
	4	130 HP (97Kw) approx. Wheel loader, power shift, with 2.0 c.m. multi purpose bucket.	8
2	1	135 HP (101Kw) approx. Motor grader with side-mould board and underslung scarifier.	13
3	1	75 HP (56Kw) approx. Agricultural type tractor fitted with hydraulic 3 point linkage and fitted tow-bar together with hydraulic tipping trailer.	27
	2	75 HP (56Kw) approx. Agricultural tractor fitted with hydraulically operated back hoe with 0.7 c.m. bucket and matching front-end loader.	5
4	1	120 HP (90Kw) approx. Self propelled vibrating roller/compactor fitted with 2.0 metre wide vibrating steel front roll. Minimum static weight unballasted 10,000 Kg.	9

#### HEAVY VEHICLES

5	1	10 tonne truck chassis with 230-250 HP (170-190Kw) engine and fitted with hydraulically tipped all steel body of 8 c.m. struck capacity.	19
	2	ditto but fitted with 8,000-10,000 litre water tank.	20
	3	ditto but fitted with 9,000 litre tank for transportation of diesel fuel.	6
	4	270 HP (200Kw) approx. prime mover with fifth wheel coupled to gooseneck articulated 40 tonne capacity and loading low-loader trailer.	6
	5	ditto but with 27,000 litre fuel tank.	1
6	1	7 tonne truck chassis with engine driving the rear wheels and fitted with hydraulically tipped all steel body of 4.0 c.m. struck capacity.	7
	2	ditto as 1 but fitted with flat bed and hinged drop sides and tail board.	7
	3	ditto as 1 but fitted with flat bed crane.	4
	4	5 tonne truck chassis with engine driving the rear wheels and fitted with flat bed and hinged drop sides.	5
7	1	Breakdown/Accident Recovery Vehicle GVW 12,000 kg min.	4

#### LIGHT VEHICLES

8	1	1,600-2,000 cc saloon cars with four doors.	68
9	1	1,500-2,000 cc Pick-Up 0.5 tonne.	172
10	1	2,200 cc approx. Four-Wheel drive, long wheel base.	76

#### CONDITIONS

The following important conditions, among others, will apply:

- Bidders may quote for the supply of one or more complete categories.
- Bidders may only quote for the supply of Light Vehicles manufactured in member countries of the IBRD (and Switzerland).
- A 15% margin of preference in bid Evaluation will be allowed for plant and equipment manufactured in Nigeria.
- The Bidder must have an established Agent in Nigeria with fully equipped workshop facilities, comprehensive spares, warehouse and must carry out the Manufacturer's Warranty Maintenance.

Bidding documents containing all instructions and specifications may be obtained from:—  
The Chief Engineer, or the Authorised office for distribution of KASRA,  
KNADP, bidding documents 141 Nine Mile Ride,  
PMB 3130, Finchampstead, Wokingham,  
Kano State, Berkshire, England RG11 4HY  
Nigeria Tel: (0734) 734774. Telex: 847507.

All applications for Bidding Documents must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of N150.00 payable to "KANO STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, NIGERIA" or £100 Sterling payable to KASRA. Completed bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the office of the Chief Engineer, KNADP, P.M.B. 3130 Kano by 5.00 p.m. on Monday 30th November, 1981.

Bids will be opened in Public at the above office at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday 1st December, 1981.

PROGRAMME MANAGER  
KNADP

## TENDER NOTIFICATION KNADP 2

### CULVERT MATERIALS

Supply and Delivery of (CULVERT MATERIALS) to Kano State Agricultural Development Project (KNADP) in Kano, Nigeria.

The Federal Government of Nigeria is to receive a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of the KNADP and it is intended that proceeds of this loan will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this invitation is issued. Payments will be made only upon approval by IBRD in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreement.

#### CULVERT MATERIALS

Category	Item	Description	Quantity
1	1	Culvert material	4,000 metres required to be phased over one year

#### CONDITIONS

The following important conditions will apply:—

- Bidders may quote for the supply of one or more complete categories.
- Bidders may only quote for the supply of plant and equipment manufactured in member countries of the IBRD (and Switzerland).
- A 15% margin of preference in Bid Evaluation will be allowed for plant and equipment manufactured in Nigeria.
- The Bidder must have an established Agent in Nigeria with fully equipped workshop facilities, comprehensive spares, warehouse and must carry out the manufacturer's Warranty Maintenance.

Bidding documents containing all instructions and specifications may be obtained from:—  
The Chief Engineer, or the Authorised office for distribution of KASRA,  
KNADP, bidding documents 141 Nine Mile Ride,  
PMB 3130, Finchampstead, Wokingham,  
Kano State, Berkshire, England RG11 4HY  
Nigeria Tel: (0734) 734774. Telex: 847507.

All applications for Bidding Documents must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of N150.00 payable to "KANO STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, NIGERIA" or £100 Sterling payable to KASRA. Completed bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the office of the Chief Engineer, KNADP, P.M.B. 3130, Kano by 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 30th November, 1981. Bids will be opened in Public at the above office at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 1st December, 1981.

PROGRAMME MANAGER  
KNADP

## TENDER NOTIFICATION KNADP 3

### GARAGE AND MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

Supply and Delivery of (GARAGE AND MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT) to Kano State Agricultural Development Project (KNADP) in Kano, Nigeria.

The Federal Government of Nigeria is to receive a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of the KNADP and it is intended that proceeds of this loan will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this invitation is issued. Payments will be made only upon approval by IBRD in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreement.

#### GARAGE AND MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

Category	Item	Description	Quantity
1	1	75mm Water Pump	5
2	1	2.5 KW Portable Generator Set	5
3	1	Stationary Compressor	4
4	1	Arc Welding Set and Accessories	4
5	1	Pedestal Drill	4
	2	Bench Drill	4
6	1	Power Hacksaw	3
7	1	Steam Cleaner, Oil Fired	4
8	1	Master Mechanic Tool Set	8
	2	General Purpose Tool Set	8
9	1	Acetylene and Oxygen Cutting Torch with Accessories	9
10	1	Blacksmith's Tool Set	5
11	1	Miscellaneous Workshop Equipment	As Specified
12	1	50,000 Kg. Hydraulic Press (Floor Mounting)	3
13	1	300 KVA (approx) Generating Units	14

#### CONDITIONS

The following important conditions, among others, will apply:

- Bidders may quote for the supply of one or more complete categories.
- Bidders may only quote for the supply of plant and equipment manufactured in member countries of the IBRD (and Switzerland).
- A 15% Margin of preference in Bid Evaluation will be allowed for Plant and Equipment manufactured in Nigeria.
- The Bidder must have an established Agent in Nigeria with fully equipped Workshop Facilities, Comprehensive Spares, Warehouse and must carry out the Manufacturer's Warranty Maintenance.

Bidding documents containing all instructions and specifications may be obtained from:—  
The Chief Engineer, or the Authorised office for distribution of KASRA,  
KNADP, bidding documents 141 Nine Mile Ride,  
PMB 3130, Finchampstead, Wokingham,  
Kano State, Berkshire, England RG11 4HY  
Nigeria Tel: (0734) 734774. Telex: 847507.

All applications for Bidding Documents must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of N150.00 payable to "KANO STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, NIGERIA" or £100 Sterling payable to KASRA. Completed bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the office of the Chief Engineer, KNADP, P.M.B. 3130, Kano by 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 30th November, 1981.

Bids will be opened in Public at the above office at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 1st December, 1981.

PROGRAMME MANAGER  
KNADP









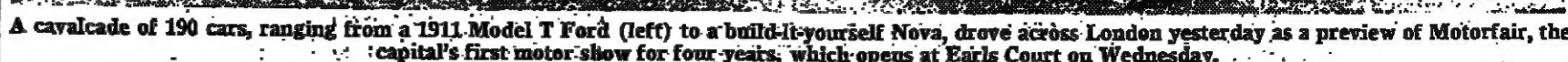






From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, Oct 18

By suddenly saying the tour should not go ahead, Mrs Gandhi is totally disregarding millions of cricket lovers." State of confusion, page 19



## Continued from page 1

by-election at Groydon, West, which the party are reconciled to losing.

Government list, p.

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THE

Education is expected to be directly in the Treasury's firing line in its demand for further pledges about protecting them from inflation.

The protest coincides with

...ances are gun trying to persuade the Treasury not to carry over this deficit into the current year's balance.

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## TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

3. **THE STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF DALLAS, ss. I, \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk of the County Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original of the same as the same is on file in my office.**

Profiles, page 10  
Leading article, page 11

[illegible]